

1 MACCABEES



1611 King James Version

Compiled By M. Love

1 Maccabees

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Also Read **1 Maccabees** in the
1535 Coverdale, 1537 Matthew's,
1539 Taverner's, 1540 Great Bible,
and 1560 Geneva Bible versions.

1 MACCABEES 1

 **1:1** And it happened, after that Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian, who came out of the land of Chettum, had smitten Darius king of the Persians and Medes, that he reigned in his stead, the first over Greece,

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1:2 And made many wars, and won many strong holds, and slew the kings of the earth,
1:3 And went through to the ends of the earth, and took spoils of many nations, insomuch, that the earth was quiet before him, whereupon he was exalted, and his heart was lifted up.

1:4 And he gathered a mighty strong host, and ruled over countries, and nations and kings, who became tributaries unto him.

1:5 And after these things he fell sick, and perceived that he should die.

1:6 Wherefore he called his servants, such as were honourable, and had been

brought up with him from his youth, and parted his kingdom among them, while he was yet alive.

1:7 So Alexander reigned twelve years, and (then) died.

1:8 And is servants bare rule every one in his place.

1:9 And after his death they all put crowns upon themselves so did their sons after them, many years, and evils were multiplied in the earth.

1:10 And there came out of them a wicked root, Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king, who had been an hostage at Rome, and he reigned in the hundredth and thirty and seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.

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1: 11 In those days went there out of Israel wicked men, who persuaded many, saying, Let us go, and make a covenant with the heathen, that are round about us: for since we departed from them, we have had much sorrow.

1: 12 So this device pleased them well.

1: 13 Then certain of the people were so forward herein, that they went to the king, who gave them license to do after the ordinances of the heathen.

1: 14 Whereupon they built a place of exercise at Jerusalem, according to the customs of the heathen,

1: 15 And made themselves, uncircumcised, and forsook

the holy covenant, and joined themselves to the heathen, and were sold to do mischief.

1: 16 Now when the kingdom was established, before Antiochus, he thought to reign over Egypt that he might have the dominion of two realms:

1: 17 Wherefore he entered into Egypt with a great multitude, with chariots, and elephants, and horsemen, and a great navy,

1: 18 And made war against Ptolemy king of Egypt, but Ptolemy was afraid of him, and fled: and many were wounded to death.

1: 19 Thus they got the strong cities in the land of Egypt, and he took the spoils thereof.

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1:20 And after that Antiochus had smitten Egypt, he returned again in the hundred forty and third year, and went up against Israel and Jerusalem with a great multitude,

1:21 And entered proudly into the sanctuary, and took away the golden altar, and the candlestick of light, and all the vessels thereof,

1:22 And the table of the shewbread, and the pouring vessels, and the vials. and the censers of gold, and the veil, and the crown, and the golden ornaments that were before the temple, all which he pulled off.

1:23 He took also the silver and the gold, and the precious vessels: also he took the

hidden treasures which he found:

1:24 And when he had taken all away, he went into his own land, having made a great massacre, and spoken very proudly.

1:25 Therefore there was a great mourning in Israel, in every place where they were;
1:26 So that the princes and elders mourned, the virgins and young men were made feeble, and the beauty of women was changed.

1:27 Every bridegroom took up lamentation, and she that sat in the marriage chamber, was in heaviness.

1:28 The land also was moved for the inhabitants thereof, and

all the house of Jacob was covered with confusion.

1:29 And after two years fully expired, the king sent his chief collector of tribute unto the cities of Juda, who came unto Jerusalem with a great multitude,

1:30 And spake peaceable words unto them, but all was deceit: for when they had given him credence, he fell suddenly upon the city, and smote it very sore, and destroyed much people of Israel.

1:31 And when he had taken the spoils of the city, he set it on fire, and pulled down the houses, and walls thereof on every side.

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1:32 But the women and children took they captive, and possessed the cattle.

1:33 Then builded they the city of David with a great and strong wall, and with mighty towers, and made it a strong hold for them,

1:34 And they put therein a sinful nation, wicked men, and fortified themselves therein.

1:35 They stored it also with armour and victuals, and when they had gathered together the spoils of Jerusalem, they laid them up there, and so they became a sore snare:

1:36 For it was a place to lie in wait against the Sanctuary, and an evil adversary to Israel.

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1:37 Thus they shed innocent blood on every side of the Sanctuary, and defiled it.

1:38 Insomuch that the inhabitants of Jerusalem fled because of them, whereupon the city was made an habitation of strangers, and became strange to those that were born in her, and her own children left her.

1:39 Her Sanctuary was laid waste like a wilderness, her feasts were turned into mourning, her Sabbaths into reproach, her honour into contempt.

1:40 As had been her glory, so was her dishonour increased, and her excellency was turned into mourning.

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1:41 Moreover king Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people,

1:42 And every one should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed, according to the commandment of the king.

1:43 Yea many also of the Israelites consented to his religion, and sacrificed unto idols, and profaned the Sabbath.

1:44 For the king had sent letters by messengers unto Jerusalem, and the cities of Juda that they should follow the strange laws of the land,

1:45 And forbid burnt offerings, and sacrifice, and drink offerings in the temple;

**and that they should profane
the Sabbaths and festival days:**

**1:46 And pollute the
Sanctuary and holy people:
1:47 Set up altars, and groves,
and chapels of idols, and
sacrifice swine's flesh, and
unclean beasts:**

**1:48 That they should also
leave their children
uncircumcised, and make their
Souls abominable with all
manner of uncleanness, and
profanation:**

**1:49 To the end they might
forget the Law, and change all
the ordinances.**

**1:50 And whosoever would
not do according to the
commandment of the king he
said he should die.**

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1:51 In the self same manner wrote he to his whole kingdom, and appointed overseers over all the people, commanding the cities of Juda to sacrifice, city by city.

1:52 Then many of the people were gathered unto them, to wit, every one that forsook the Law, and so they committed evils in the land:

1:53 And drove the Israelites into secret places, even wheresoever they could flee for succour.

1:54 Now the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundredth forty and fifth year, they set up the abomination of desolation upon the Altar, and builded idol altars throughout

the cities of Juda, on every side;

1:55 And burnt incense at the doors of their houses, and in the streets.

1:56 And when they had rent in pieces the books of the Law which they found, they burnt them with fire.

1:57 And wheresoever was found with any, the book of the Testament, or if any consented to the Law, the king's commandment was, that they should put him to death.

1:58 Thus did they by their authority, unto the Israelites every month, to as many as were found in the cities.

1:59 Now the five and twentieth day of the month,

they did sacrifice upon the idol altar, which was upon the Altar of God.

1:60 At which time, according to the commandment, they put to death certain women that had caused their children to be circumcised.

1:61 And they hanged the infants about their necks, and rifled their houses, and slew them that had circumcised them.

1:62 Howbeit, many in Israel were fully resolved and confirmed in themselves, not to eat any unclean thing.

1:63 Wherefore they chose rather to die, that they might not be defiled with meats, and

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**that they might not profane the
holy Covenant:**

So then they died.

**1:64 And there was very great
wrath upon Israel.**

1 MACCABEES 2

 **2:1 In those days arose
Mattathias the son of John, the
son of Simeon, a priest of the
sons of Joarib, from
Jerusalem, and dwelt in Modin.**

**2:2 And he had five sons,
Joannan called Caddis:**

2:3 Simon; called Thassi:

**2:4 Judas, who was called
Maccabeus:**

**2:5 Eleazar, called Avaran, and
Jonathan, whose surname was
Apphus.**

2:6 And when he saw the blasphemies that were committed in Juda and Jerusalem,

2:7 He said, Woe is me, wherefore was I born to see this misery of my people, and of the holy city, and to dwell there, when it was delivered into the hand of the enemy, and the Sanctuary into the hand of strangers?

2:8 Her temple is become as a man without glory.

2:9 Her glorious vessels are carried away into captivity, her infants are slain in the streets, her young men with the sword of the enemy.

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2:10 What nation hath not had a part in her kingdom, and gotten of her spoils?

2:11 All her ornaments are taken away, of a free woman she is become a bondslave.

2:12 And behold, our Sanctuary, even our beauty, and our glory is laid waste, and the Gentiles have profaned it.

2:13 To what end therefore shall we live any longer?

2:14 Then Mattathias and his sons rent their clothes, and put on sackcloth, and mourned very sore.

2:15 In the mean while the king's officers,

such as compelled the people to revolt, came into the city Modin, to make them sacrifice.

2:16 And when many of Israel came unto them, Mattathias also and his sons came together.

2:17 Then answered the king's officers, and said to Mattathias on this wise; Thou art a ruler, and an honourable and great man in this city, and strengthened with sons and brethren:

2:18 Now therefore come thou first and fulfill the king's commandment, like as all the heathen have done; yea, and the men of Juda also, and such as remain at Jerusalem: so

**shalt thou and thy house be in
the number of the king's
friends, and thou and thy
children shall be honoured
with silver, and gold, and many
rewards.**

**2:19 Then Mattathias
answered, and spake with a
loud voice, Though all the
nations that are under the
king's dominion obey him, and
fall away every one from the
religion of their fathers, and
give consent to his
commandments:**

**2:20 Yet will I, and my sons,
and my brethren walk in the
covenant of our fathers.**

2:21 God forbid that we should forsake the Law, and the ordinances:

2:22 We will not hearken to the king's words, to go from our religion, either on the right hand, or the left.

2:23 Now when he had left speaking these words, there came one of the Jews in the sight of all, to sacrifice on the altar, which was at Modin, according to the king's commandment.

2:24 Which thing when Mattathias saw, he was inflamed with zeal, and his reins trembled, neither could he forbear to shew his anger according to judgment:

wherfore he ran, and slew him upon the altar.

2:25 Also the king's commissioner, who compelled men to sacrifice, he killed at that time, and the altar he pulled down.

2:26 Thus dealt he zealously for the law of God like as Phinees did unto Zambri the son of Salom.

2:27 And Mattathias cried throughout the city with a loud voice, saying, Whosoever is zealous of the law, and maintaineth the covenant, let him follow me.

2:28 So he and his sons fled into the mountains, and left all that ever they had in the city.

2:29 Then many that sought after justice and judgment, went down into the wilderness, to dwell there.

2:30 Both they and their children, and their wives, and their cattle, because afflictions increased sore upon them.

2:31 Now when it was told the king's servants, and the host that was at Jerusalem, in the city of David, that certain men, who had broken the king's commandment, were gone down into the secret places in the wilderness.

2:32 They pursued after them, a great number, and having overtaken them, they camped against them, and made war

against them on the Sabbath day.

2:33 And they said unto them, Let that which ye have done hitherto, suffice: Come forth, and do according to the commandment of the king, and ye shall live.

2:34 But they said, We will not come forth, neither will we do the king's commandment to profane the Sabbath day.

2:35 So then they gave them the battle with all speed.

2:36 Howbeit, they answered them not, neither cast they a stone at them, nor stopped the places where they lay hid,

2:37 But said, Let us die all in our innocency: heaven and

earth will testify for us, that ye put us to death wrongfully.

2:38 So they rose up against them in battle on the Sabbath, and they slew them with their wives, and children, and their cattle, to the number of a thousand people.

2:39 Now when Mattathias and his friends understood hereof they mourned for them right sore.

2:40 And one of them said to another: If we all do as our brethren have done, and fight not for our lives, and laws against the heathen, they will now quickly root us out of the earth.

2:41 At that time therefore they decreed, saying, Whosoever shall come to make battle with us on the Sabbath day, we will fight against him, neither will we die all, as our brethren that were murdered in the secret places.

2:42 Then came there unto him a company of Assideans, who were mighty men of Israel, even all such as were voluntarily devoted unto the Law.

2:43 Also all they that fled for persecution joined themselves unto them, and were a stay unto them.

2:44 So they joined their forces, and smote sinful men

**in their anger, and wicked men
in their wrath: but the rest fled
to the heathen for succour.**

**2:45 Then Mattathias and his
friends went round about, and
pulled down the altars.**

**2:46 And what children soever
they found within the coast of
Israel uncircumcised, those
they circum-cised valiantly.**

**2:47 They pursued also after
the proud men, and the work
prospered in their hand.**

**2:48 So they recovered the
Law out of the hand of the
Gentiles, and out of the hand of
kings, neither suffered they the
sinner to triumph.**

**2:49 Now when the time drew
near that Mattathias should**

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die, he said unto his sons, Now hath pride and rebuke gotten strength, and the time of destruction, and the wrath of indignation:

2:50 Now therefore, my sons, be ye zealous for the Law, and give your lives for the covenant of your fathers.

2:51 Call to remembrance what acts our fathers did in their time, so shall ye receive great honour, and an everlasting name.

2:52 Was not Abraham found faithful in temptation, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness?

2:53 Joseph in the time of his distress kept the

commandment, and was made lord of Egypt.

2:54 Phinees our father in being zealous and fervent, obtained the covenant of an everlasting priesthood.

2:55 Jesus for fulfilling the word, was made a judge in Israel.

2:56 Caleb for bearing witness, before the congregation, received the heritage of the land.

2:57 David for being merciful, possessed the throne of an everlasting kingdom.

2:58 Elias for being zealous and fervent for the law, was taken up into heaven.

2:59 Ananias, Azarias, and Misael, by believing were saved out of the flame.

2:60 Daniel for his innocence was delivered from the mouth of lions.

2:61 And thus consider ye throughout all ages, that none that put their trust in him shall be overcome.

2:62 Fear not then the words of a sinful man: for his glory shall be dung and worms.

2:63 To day he shall be lifted up, and to morrow he shall not be found, because he is returned into his dust, and his thought is come to nothing.

2:64 Wherefore, ye my sons, be valiant and shew yourselves

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**men in the behalf of the law,
for by it shall ye obtain glory.**

**2:65 And behold, I know that
your brother Simon is a man of
counsel, give ear unto him
alway: he shall be a father unto
you.**

**2:66 As for Judas Maccabeus
he hath been mighty and
strong, even from his youth up,
let him be your captain, and
fight the battle of the people.**

**2:67 Take also unto you all
those that observe the law, and
avenge ye the wrong of your
people.**

**2:68 Recompense fully the
heathen, and take heed to the
commandments of the law.**

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2:69 So he blessed them, and was gathered to his fathers.

2:70 And he died in the hundredth forty, and sixth year, and his sons buried him in the sepulchres of his fathers, at Modin, and all Israel made great lamentation for him.

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 **3:1** Then his son Judas, called Maccabeus, rose up in his stead.

3:2 And all his brethren helped him, and so did all they that held with his father, and they fought with cheerfulness, the battle of Israel.

3:3 So he gat his people great honour, and put on a

breastplate as a giant, and girt his warlike harness about him, and he made battles, protecting the host with his sword.

3:4 In his acts he was like a lion, and like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey.

3:5 For he pursued the wicked, and sought them out, and burnt up those that vexed his people.

3:6 Wherefore the wicked shrunk for fear of him, and all the workers of iniquity were troubled, because salvation prospered in his hand.

3:7 He grieved also many kings, and made Jacob glad with his acts, and his memorial is blessed for ever.

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3:8 Moreover he went through the cities of Juda, destroying the ungodly out of them, and turning away wrath from Israel.

3:9 So that he was renowned unto the utmost part of the earth, and he received unto him such as were ready to perish.

3:10 Then Apollonius gathered the Gentiles together, and a great host out of Samaria, to fight against Israel.

3:11 Which thing when Judas perceived he went forth to meet him, and so he smote him, and slew him, many also fell down slain, but the rest fled.

3:12 Wherefore Judas took their spoils, and Apollonius'

sword also, and therewith he fought, all his life long.

3:13 Now when Seron a prince of the army of Syria, heard say that Judas had gathered unto him a multitude and company of the faithful, to go out with him to war.

3:14 He said, I will get me a name and honour in the kingdom, for I will go fight with Judas and them that are with him, who despise the king's commandment.

3:15 So he made him ready to go up, and there went with him a mighty host of the ungodly to help him, and to be avenged of the children of Israel.

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3: 16 And when he came near to the going up of Bethhoron, Judas went forth to meet him with a small company.

3: 17 Who when they saw the host coming to meet them, said unto Judas; How shall we be able, being so few to fight against so great a multitude, and so strong, seeing we are ready to faint with fasting all this day?

3: 18 Unto whom Judas answered: It is no hard matter for many to be shut up in the hands of a few; and with the God of heaven it is all one, to deliver with a great multitude, or a small company:

3: 19 For the victory of battle standeth not in the multitude of

**an host, but strength cometh
from heaven.**

**3:20 They come against us in
much pride and iniquity to
destroy us, and our wives and
children, and to spoil us:**

**3:21 But we fight for our lives,
and our Laws.**

**3:22 Wherefore the Lord
himself will overthrow them
before our face: and as for you,
be ye not afraid of them.**

**3:23 Now as soon as he had
left off speaking, he leapt
suddenly upon them, and so
Seron and his host was
overthrown before him.**

**3:24 And they pursued them
from the going down of
Bethhoron, unto the plain,
where were slain about eight**

hundred men of them; and the residue fled into the land of the Philistines.

3:25 Then began the fear of Judas and his brethren, and an exceeding great dread to fall upon the nations round about them:

3:26 In so much, as his fame came unto the king, and all nations talked of the battles of Judas.

3:27 Now when king Antiochus heard these things, he was full of indignation: wherefore he sent and gathered together all the forces of his realm even a very strong army.

3:28 He opened also his treasure, and gave his soldiers

pay for a year, commanding them to be ready, whosoever he should need them.

3:29 Nevertheless, when he saw that the money of his treasures failed, and that the tributes in the country were small, because of the dissension, and plague which he had brought upon the land, in taking away the Laws which had been of old time,

3:30 He feared that he should not be able to bear the charges any longer, nor to have such gifts to give so liberally, as he did before: for he had abounded above the kings that were before him.

3:31 Wherefore, being greatly perplexed in his mind, he

determined to go into Persia, there to take the tributes of the countries, and to gather much money.

3:32 So he left Lysias, a nobleman, and one of the blood royal, to oversee the affairs of the king, from the river Euphrates, unto the borders of Egypt:

3:33 And to bring up his son Antiochus, until he came again.

3:34 Moreover he delivered unto him the half of his forces, and the elephants, and gave him charge of all things that he would have done, as also concerning them that dwelt in Juda and Jerusalem.

3:35 To wit, that he should send an army against them, to destroy and root out the strength of Israel, and the remnant of Jerusalem, and to take away their memorial from that place:

3:36 And that he should place strangers in all their quarters, and divide their land by lot.

3:37 So the king took the half of the forces that remained, and departed from Antioch his royal city, the hundredth forty and seventh year, and having passed the river Euphrates, he went through the high countries.

3:38 Then Lysias chose Ptoleme, the son of

Dorymenes, Nicanor, and Gorgias, mighty men of the king's friends:

3:39 And with them he sent forty thousand footmen, and seven thousand horsemen to go into the land of Juda, and to destroy it, as the king commanded.

3:40 So they went forth with all their power, and came and pitched by Emmaus in the plain country.

3:41 And the merchants of the country, hearing the fame of them, took silver, and gold very much, with servants, and came into the camp to buy the children of Israel for slaves; a power also of Syria, and of the

land of the Philistines, joined themselves unto them.

3:42 Now when Judas and his brethren saw that miseries were multiplied, and that the forces did encamp themselves in their borders, (for they knew how the king had given commandment to destroy the people, and utterly abolish them.)

3:43 They said one to another, Let us restore the decayed fortune of our people, and let us fight for our people and the sanctuary.

3:44 Then was the Congregation gathered together, that they might be ready for battle, and that they

might pray, and ask mercy and compassion.

3:45 Now Jerusalem lay void as a wilderness, there was none of her children that went in or out: the Sanctuary also was trodden down, and aliens kept the strong hold: the heathen had their habitation in that place, and joy was taken from Jacob, and the pipe with the harp ceased.

3:46 Wherefore the Israelites assembled themselves together, and came to Maspha over against Jerusalem; for in Maspha was the place where they prayed aforetime in Israel.

3:47 Then they fasted that day, and put on sackcloth, and

**cast ashes upon their heads,
and rent their clothes:**

**3:48 And laid open the book of
the Law, wherein the heathen
had sought to paint the
likeness of their images.**

**3:49 They brought also the
priests' garments, and the first
fruits, and the tithes, and the
Nazaries they stirred up, who
had accomplished their days.**

**3:50 Then cried they with a
loud voice toward heaven,
saying, What shall we do with
these, and whither shall we
carry them away?**

**3:51 For thy Sanctuary is
trodden down and profaned,
and thy priests are in
heaviness, and brought low.**

3:52 And lo, the heathen are assembled together against us, to destroy us: what things they imagine against us, thou knowest.

3:53 How shall we be able to stand against them, except thou (O God) be our help?

3:54 Then sounded they with trumpets, and cried with a loud voice.

3:55 And after this, Judas ordained captains over the people, even captains over thousands, and over hundreds, and over fifties, and over tens.

3:56 But as for such as were building houses, or had betrothed wives, or were planting vineyards, or were fearful, those he commanded

that they should return, every man to his own house, according to the Law.

3:57 So the camp removed, and pitched upon the south side of Emmaus.

3:58 And Judas said, Arm yourselves, and be valiant men, and see that ye be in readiness against the morning, that ye may fight with these nations, that are assembled together against us, to destroy us and our Sanctuary.

3:59 For it is better for us to die in battle, than to behold the calamities of our people, and our Sanctuary.

3:60 Nevertheless, as the will of God is in heaven, so let him do.

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 **4:1** Then took Gorgias five thousand footmen, and a thousand of the best horsemen, and removed out of the camp by night:

4:2 To the end he might rush in upon the camp of the Jews, and smite them suddenly. And the men of the fortress were his guides.

4:3 Now when Judas heard thereof, he himself removed, and the valiant men with him, that he might smite the king's army which was at Emmaus,

4:4 While as yet the forces were dispersed from the camp.

4:5 In the mean season came Gorgias by night into the camp

of Judas: and when he found no man there, he sought them in the mountains: for said he, these fellows flee from us.

4:6 But as soon as it was day, Judas shewed himself in the plain with three thousand men, who nevertheless had neither armour, nor swords to their minds.

4:7 And they saw the camp of the heathen, that it was strong and well harnessed, and compassed round about with horsemen; and these were expert of war.

4:8 Then said Judas to the men that were with him: fear ye not their multitude, neither be ye afraid of their assault.

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4:9 Remember how our fathers were delivered in the Red sea, when Pharaoh pursued them with an army.

4:10 Now therefore let us cry unto heaven, if peradventure the Lord will have mercy upon us, and remember the covenant of our fathers, and destroy this host before our face this day.

4:11 That so all the heathen may know that there is one, who delivereth and saveth Israel.

4:12 Then the strangers lifted up their eyes, and saw them coming over against them.

4:13 Wherefore they went out of the camp to battle, but they that were with

Judas sounded their trumpets.

4: 14 So they joined battle, and the heathen being discomfited, fled into the plain.

4: 15 Howbeit all the hindmost of them were slain with the sword: for they pursued them unto Gazera, and unto the plains of Idumea, and Azotus, and Jamnia, so that there were slain of them, upon a three thousand men.

4: 16 This done, Judas returned again with his host from pursuing them,

4: 17 And said to the people, Be not greedy of the spoil inasmuch as there is a battle before us,

4: 18 And Gorgias and his host are here by us in the mountain,

but stand ye now against our enemies, and overcome them, and after this ye may boldly take the spoils.

4:19 As Judas was yet speaking these words, there appeared a part of them looking out of the mountain.

4:20 Who when they perceived that the Jews had put their host to flight and were burning the tents: (for the smoke that was seen declared what was done).

4:21 When therefore they perceived these things, they were sore afraid, and seeing also the host of Judas in the plain ready to fight:

4:22 They fled every one into the land of strangers.

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4:23 Then Judas returned to spoil the tents, where they got much gold, and silver, and blue silk, and purple of the sea, and great riches.

4:24 After this, they went home, and sung a song of thanksgiving, and praised the Lord in heaven: because it is good, because his mercy endureth forever.

4:25 Thus Israel had a great deliverance that day.

4:26 Now all the strangers that had escaped, came and told Lysias what had happened.

4:27 Who when he heard thereof, was confounded, and discouraged, because neither such things as he would, were done unto Israel, nor such

things as the king commanded him were come to pass.

4:28 The next year therefore following, Lysias gathered together threescore thousand choice men of foot, and five thousand horsemen, that he might subdue them.

4:29 So they came into Idumea, and pitched their tents at Bethsura, and Judas met them with ten thousand men.

4:30 And when he saw that mighty army, he prayed, and said, Blessed art thou, O Saviour of Israel, who didst quell the violence of the mighty man by the hand of thy servant David, and gavest, the host of strangers into the hands of

Jonathan the son of Saul, and his armourbearer.

4:31 Shut up this army in the hand of thy people Israel, and let them be confounded in their power and horsemen.

4:32 Make them to be of no courage, and cause the boldness of their strength to fall away, and let them quake at their destruction.

4:33 Cast them down with the sword of them that love thee, and let all those that know thy name praise thee with thanksgiving.

4:34 So they joined battle, and there were slain of the host of Lysias about five thousand men, even before them were they slain.

4:35 Now when Lysias saw his army put to flight, and the manliness of Judas' soldiers, and how they were ready, either to live or die valiantly, he went into Antiochia, and gathered together a company of strangers, and having made his army greater than it was, he purposed to come again into Judea.

4:36 Then said Judas and his brethren, behold our enemies are discomfited: let us go up to cleanse, and dedicate the Sanctuary.

4:37 Upon this all the host assembled themselves together, and went up into mount Sion.

4:38 And when they saw the sanctuary

desolate, and the altar profaned, and the gates burned up, and shrubs growing in the courts, as in a forest, or in one of the mountains, yea and the priests' chambers pulled down,

4:39 They rent their clothes, and made great lamentation, and cast ashes upon their heads,

4:40 And fell down flat to the ground upon their faces, and blew an alarm with the trumpets, and cried toward heaven.

4:41 Then Judas appointed certain men to fight against those that were in the fortress,

until he had cleansed the Sanctuary.

4:42 So he chose priests of blameless conversation, such as had pleasure in the law.

4:43 Who cleansed the Sanctuary, and bare out the defiled stones into an unclean place.

4:44 And when as they consulted what to do with the altar of burnt offerings which was profaned,

4:45 They thought it best to pull it down, lest it should be a reproach to them, because the heathen had defiled it; wherefore they pulled it down,

4:46 And laid up the stones in the mountain of the temple in a

convenient place, until there should come a prophet, to shew what should be done with them.

4:47 Then they took whole stones according to the law, and built a new altar, according to the former:

4:48 And made up the Sanctuary, and the things that were within the temple, and hallowed the courts.

4:49 They made also new holy vessels, and into the temple they brought the candlestick, and the altar of burnt offerings, and of incense, and the table.

4:50 And upon the altar they burned incense, and the lamps that were upon the candlestick

they lighted, that they might give light in the temple.

4:51 Furthermore they set the loaves upon the table, and spread out the veils, and finished all the works which they had begun to make.

4:52 Now on the five and twentieth day of the ninth month, (which is called the month Casleu) in the hundred forty and eighth year, they rose up betimes in the morning,

4:53 And offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new altar of burnt offerings, which they had made.

4:54 Look at what time, and what day the heathen had profaned it, even in that was it dedicated with songs, and

citherns, and harps, and cymbals.

4:55 Then all the people fell upon their faces, worshipping and praising the God of heaven, who had given them good success.

4:56 And so they kept the dedication of the altar eight days, and offered burnt offerings with gladness, and sacrificed the sacrifice of deliverance and praise.

4:57 They decked also the forefront of the temple with crowns of gold; and with shields, and the gates, and the chambers they renewed and hanged doors upon them.

4:58 Thus was there very great gladness among the

**people, for that the reproach of
the heathen was put away.**

**4:59 Moreover Judas and his
brethren with the whole
congregation of Israel ordained
that the days of the dedication
of the altar, should be kept in
their season from year to year
by the space of eight days,
from the five and twentieth day
of the month Casleu, with mirth
and gladness.**

**4:60 At that time also they
builded up the mount Sion with
high walls and strong towers
round about, lest the Gentiles
should come and tread it down
as they had done before.**

**4:61 And they set there a
garrison to keep it: and
fortified Bethsura to preserve**

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it, that the people might have a defence against Idumea.

1 MACCABEES 5

 **5:1 Now when the nations round about heard that the altar was built, and the sanctuary renewed as before, it displeased them very much.**

5:2 Wherefore they thought to destroy the generation of Jacob that was among them, and thereupon they began to slay and destroy the people.

5:3 Then Judas fought against the children of Esau in Idumea at Arabattine, because they besieged Gael: and he gave them a great overthrow, and abated their courage, and took their spoils.

5:4 Also he remembered the injury of the children of Bean, who had been a snare and an offence unto the people, in that they lay in wait for them in the ways.

5:5 He shut them up therefore in the towers, and encamped against them, and destroyed them utterly, and burned the towers of that place with fire, and all that were therein.

5:6 Afterward he passed over to the children of Ammon, where he found a mighty power, and much people, with Timotheus their captain.

5:7 So he fought many battles with them, till at length they were discomfited before him; and he smote them.

5:8 And when he had taken Jazar, with the towns belonging thereto, he returned into Judea.

5:9 Then the heathen that were at Galaad assembled themselves together against the Israelites that were in their quarters, to destroy them: but they fled to the fortress of Dathema;

5:10 And sent letters unto Judas and his brethren: The heathen that are round about us, are assembled together against us to destroy us;

5:11 And they are preparing to come and take the fortress whereunto we are fled, Timotheus being captain of their host.

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5: 12 Come now therefore and deliver us from their hands, for many of us are slain.

5: 13 Yea all our brethren that were in the places of Tobie, are put to death, their wives and their children; also they have carried away captives, and borne away their stuff, and they have destroyed there about a thousand men.

5: 14 While these letters were yet reading, behold, there came other messengers from Galilee with their clothes rent, who reported on this wise,

5: 15 And said: They of Ptolemais, and of Tyrus, and Sidon, and all Galilee of the Gentiles, are assembled

**together against us to
consume us.**

**5: 16 Now when Judas and the
people heard these words,
there assembled a great
congregation together, to
consult what they should do
for their brethren, that were in
trouble, and assaulted of them.**

**5: 17 Then said Judas unto
Simon his brother, Choose
thee out men, and go, and
deliver thy brethren that are in
Galilee, for I and Jonathan my
brother will go into the country
of Galaad.**

**5: 18 So he left Joseph the son
of
Zacharias, and Azarias,
captains of the people, with the**

**remnant of the host in Judea to
keep it,**

**5:19 Unto whom he gave
command-ment, saying, Take
ye the charge of this people,
and see that ye make not war
against the heathen, until the
time that we come again.**

**5:20 Now unto Simon were
given three thousand men to
go into Galilee, and unto Judas
eight thousand men for the
country of Galaad.**

**5:21 Then went Simon into
Galilee, where he fought many
battles with the heathen, so
that the heathen were
discomfited by him.**

**5:22 And he pursued them
unto the gate of Ptolemais; and
there were slain of the heathen**

**about three thousand men,
whose spoils he took.**

**5:23 And those that were in
Galilee, and in Arbattis, with
their wives and their children,
and all that they had, took he
away with him and brought
them into Judea, with great joy.**

**5:24 Judas Maccabeus also
and his
brother Jonathan went over
Jordan, and travelled three
days' journey in the
wilderness,**

**5:25 Where they met with the
Nabathites, who came unto
them in a peaceable manner,
and told them every thing that
had happened to their brethren
in the land of Galaad,**

5:26 And how that many of them were shut up in Bosora, and Bosor, and Alema, Casphor, Maked and Carnaim (all these cities are strong and great.)

5:27 And that they were shut up in the rest of the cities of the country of Galaad, and that against to morrow they had appointed to bring their host against the forts, and to take them, and to destroy them all in one day.

5:28 Hereupon Judas and his host turned suddenly by the way of the wilderness unto Bosora, and when he had won the city, he slew all the males with the edge of the sword, and

**took all their spoils, and burnt
the city with fire.**

**5:29 From whence he
removed by
night, and went till he came to
the fortress.**

**5:30 And betimes in the
morning they looked up, and,
behold, there was an
innumerable people bearing
ladders, and other engines of
war, to take the fortress: for
they assaulted them.**

**5:31 When Judas therefore
saw that the battle was begun,
and that the cry of the city
went up to heaven, with
trumpets, and a great sound,**

**5:32 He said unto his host,
Fight this day for your
brethren.**

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5:33 So he went forth behind them in three companies, who sounded their trumpets, and cried with prayer.

5:34 Then the host of Timotheus knowing that it was Maccabeus, fled from him: wherefore he smote them with a great slaughter: so that there were killed of them that day about eight thousand men.

5:35 This done, Judas turned aside to Maspha, and after he had assaulted it, he took it, and slew all the males therein, and received the spoils thereof, and burnt it with fire.

5:36 From thence went he, and took Casphon, Maged,

**Bosor, and the other cities of
the country of Galaad.**

**5:37 After these things
gathered Timotheus another
host, and encamped against
Raphon beyond the brook.**

**5:38 So Judas sent men to
espy the host, who brought
him word, saying; All the
heathen that be round about
us, are assembled unto them,
even a very great host.**

**5:39 He hath also hired the
Arabians to help them, and
they have pitched their tents
beyond the brook, ready to
come and fight against thee:
upon this Judas went to meet
them.**

**5:40 Then Timotheus said
unto the captains of his host,**

When Judas and his host come near the brook, if he pass over first unto us, we shall not be able to withstand him, for he will mightily prevail against us.

5:41 But if he be afraid, and camp beyond the river, we shall go over unto him, and prevail against him.
5:42 Now when Judas came near the brook, he caused the scribes of the people to remain by the brook: unto whom he gave commandment, saying, Suffer no man to remain in the camp, but let all come to the battle.

5:43 So he went first over unto them, and all the people after him: then all the heathen,

**being discomfited before him,
cast away their weapons, and
fled unto the temple that was at
Carnaim.**

**5:44 But they took the city,
and burned the temple with all
that were therein. Thus was
Carnaim subdued, neither
could they stand any longer
before Judas.**

**5:45 Then Judas gathered
together all the Israelites that
were in the country of Galaad
from the least unto the
greatest, even their wives, and
their children, and their stuff, a
very great host, to the end they
might come into the land of
Judea.**

**5:46 Now when they came
unto Ephron (this was a great**

city in the way as they should go, very well fortified) they could not turn from it, either on the right hand or the left, but must needs pass through the midst of it.

5:47 Then they of the city shut them out, and stopped up the gates with stones.

5:48 Whereupon Judas sent unto them in peaceable manner, saying; Let us pass through your land to go into our own country, and none shall do you any hurt, we will only pass through on foot: howbeit they would not open unto him.

5:49 Wherefore Judas commanded a proclamation to be made throughout the host,

that every man should pitch his tent in the place where he was.

5:50 So the soldiers pitched, and assaulted the city all that day, and all that night, till at the length the city was delivered into his hands:

5:51 Who then slew all the males with the edge of the sword, and rased the city, and took the spoils thereof, and passed through the city over them that were slain.

5:52 After this went they over Jordan, into the great plain before Bethsan.

5:53 And Judas gathered together those that came behind, and exhorted the people all the way through, till

they came into the land of Judea.

5:54 So they went up to mount Sion with joy and gladness, where they offered burnt offerings, because not one of them were slain, until they had returned in peace.

5:55 Now what time as Judas and Jonathan were in the land of Galaad, and Simon his brother in Galilee before Ptolemais,

5:56 Joseph the son of Zacharias, and Azarias, captains of the garrisons, heard of the valiant acts and warlike deeds which they had done.

5:57 Wherefore they said, Let us also get us a name, and go

**fight against the heathen that
are round about us.**

**5:58 So when they had given
charge unto the garrison that
was with them, they went
toward Jamnia.**

**5:59 Then came Gorgias and
his men out of the city to fight
against them.**

**5:60 And so it was, that
Joseph and Azaras were put to
flight, and pursued unto the
borders of Judea, and there
were slain that day of the
people of Israel about two
thousand men.**

**5:61 Thus was there a great
overthrow among the children
of Israel, because they were
not obedient unto Judas, and**

his brethren, but thought to do some valiant act.

5:62 Moreover these men came not of the seed of those, by whose hand deliverance was given unto Israel.

5:63 Howbeit the man Judas and his brethren were greatly renowned in the sight of all Israel, and of all the heathen wheresoever their name was heard of,

5:64 Insomuch as the people assembled unto them with joyful acclamations.

5:65 Afterward went Judas forth with his brethren, and fought against the children of Esau in the land toward the south, where he smote Hebron, and the towns thereof, and

**pulled down the fortress of it,
and burned the towers thereof
round about.**

**5:66 From thence he removed
to go into the land of the
Philistines, and passed
through Samaria.**

**5:67 At that time certain
priests, desirous to shew their
valour, were slain in battle, for
that they went out to fight
unadvisedly.**

**5:68 So Judas turned to
Azotus in the land of the
Philistines, and when he had
pulled down their altars, and
burned their carved images
with fire, and spoiled their
cities, he returned into the land
of Judea.**

1 MACCABEES 6

 **6:1** About that time king Antiochus travelling through the high countries, heard say that Elymais in the country of Persia was a city greatly renowned for riches, silver, and gold,

6:2 And that there was in it a very rich temple, wherein were coverings of gold, and breastplates, and shields which Alexander son of Philip, the Macedonian king, who reigned first among the Grecians, had left there.

6:3 Wherefore he came and sought to take the city, and to spoil it, but he was not able,

**because they of the city having
had warning thereof,**

**6:4 Rose up against him in
battle: So he fled and departed
thence with great heaviness,
and returned to Babylon.**

**6:5 Moreover there came one
who brought him tidings into
Persia, that the armies which
went against the land of Judea,
were put to flight:**

**6:6 And that Lysias who went
forth first with a great power,
was driven away of the Jews,
and that they were made
strong by the armour, and
power, and store of spoils,
which they had gotten of the
armies, whom they had
destroyed.**

6:7 Also that they had pulled down the abomination which he had set up upon the altar in Jerusalem, and that they had compassed about the sanctuary with high walls as before, and his city Bethsura.

6:8 Now when the king heard these words, he was astonished, and sore moved, whereupon he laid him down upon his bed, and fell sick for grief, because it had not befallen him, as he looked for.

6:9 And there he continued many days: for his grief was ever more and more, and he made account that he should die.

6:10 Wherefore he called for all his friends, and said unto

**them, The sleep is gone from
mine eyes, and my heart faileth
for very care.**

**6:11 And I thought with my
self: Into what tribulation am I
come, and how great a flood of
misery is it, wherein now I am?
for I was bountiful, and
beloved in my power.**

**6:12 But now I remember the
evils that I did at Jerusalem,
and that I took all the vessels
of gold and silver that were
therein, and sent to destroy the
inhabitants of Judea without a
cause.**

**6:13 I perceive therefore that
for this cause these troubles
are come upon me, and behold
I perish through great grief in a
strange land.**

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6: 14 Then called he for Philip one of his friends who he made ruler over all his realm:

6: 15 And gave him the crown and his robe, and his signet, to the end he should bring up his son Antiochus, and nourish him up for the kingdom.

6: 16 So king Antiochus died there in the hundredth forty and ninth year.

6: 17 Now when Lysias knew that the king was dead, he set up Antiochus his son (whom he had brought up being young) to reign in his stead, and his name he called Eupator.

6: 18 About this time they that were in the tower shut up the Israelites round about the

**sanctuary, and sought always
their hurt, and the
strengthening of the heathen.**

**6:19 Wherefore Judas
purposing to destroy them,
called all the people together
to besiege them.**

**6:20 So they came together,
and besieged them in the
hundred and fiftieth year, and
he made mounts for shot
against them, and other
engines.**

**6:21 Howbeit certain of them
that were besieged got forth,
unto whom some ungodly men
of Israel joined themselves.**

**6:22 And they went unto the
king and said, How long will it
be ere thou execute judgment,
and avenge our brethren?**

1 MACCABEES

6:23 We have been willing to serve thy father, and to do as he would have us, and to obey his commandments.

6:24 For which cause they of our nation besiege the tower, and are alienated from us: moreover as many of us as they could light on, they slew, and spoiled our inheritance.

6:25 Neither have they stretched out their hand against us only, but also against their borders.

6:26 And behold this day are they besieging the tower at Jerusalem to take it: the sanctuary also, and Bethsura have they fortified.

6:27 Wherefore if thou dost not prevent them quickly, they

will do the greater things than these, neither shalt thou be able to rule them.

6:28 Now when the king heard this, he was angry, and gathered together all his friends, and the captains of his army, and those that had charge of the horse.

6:29 There came also unto him from other kingdoms, and from Isles of the Sea bands of hired soldiers.

6:30 So that the number of his army was an hundred thousand foot men, and twenty thousand horsemen, and two and thirty elephants exercised in battle.

6:31 These went through Idumea, and pitched against

Bethsura which they assaulted many days, making engines of war: but they of Bethsura came out, and burned them with fire, and fought valiantly.

6:32 Upon this Judas removed from the tower, and pitched in Bathzacharias, over against the king's camp.

6:33 Then the king rising very early marched fiercely with his host toward Bathzacharias, where his armies made them ready to battle, and sounded the trumpets.

6:34 And to the end they might provoke the elephants to fight, they shewed them the blood of grapes and mulberries.

6:35 Moreover, they divided the beasts among the armies, and for every elephant they appointed a thousand men, armed with coats of mail, and with helmets of brass on their heads, and beside this, for every beast were ordained five hundred horsemen of the best.

6:36 These were ready at every occasion: wheresoever the beast was, and whithersoever the beast went, they went also, neither departed they from him.

6:37 And upon the beasts were there strong towers of wood, which covered every one of them, and were girt fast unto them with devices: there were also upon every one two

and thirty strong men that fought upon them, beside the Indian that ruled him.

6:38 As for the remnant of the horsemen they set them on this side, and that side, at the two parts of the host giving them signs what to do, and being harnessed all over amidst the ranks.

6:39 Now when the sun shone upon the shields of gold, and brass, the mountains glistened therewith, and shined like lamps of fire.

6:40 So part of the king's army being spread upon the high mountains, and part on the valleys below, they marched on safely, and in order.

6:41 Wherefore all that heard the noise of their multitude, and the marching of the company, and the rattling of the harness, were moved: for the army was very great and mighty.

6:42 Then Judas and his host drew near, and entered into battle, and there were slain of the king's army, six hundred men.

6:43 Eleazar also (surnamed) Savaran, perceiving that one of the beasts, armed with royal harness, was higher than all the rest, and supposing that the king was upon him,

6:44 Put himself in jeopardy, to the end he might deliver his

**people, and get him a
perpetual name:**

**6:45 Wherefore he ran upon
him courageously through the
midst of the battle, slaying on
the right hand, and on the left,
so that they were divided from
him on both sides.**

**6:46 Which done, he crept
under the elephant, and thrust
him under, and slew him:
whereupon the elephant fell
down upon him, and there he
died.**

**6:47 Howbeit the rest of the
Jews seeing the strength of the
king, and the violence of his
forces, turned away from them.**

**6:48 Then the king's army
went up to Jerusalem to meet
them, and the king pitched his**

**tents against Judea, and
against mount Sion.**

**6:49 But with them that were
in Bethsura he made peace: for
they came out of the city,
because they had no victuals
there, to endure the siege, it
being a year of rest to the land.**

**6:50 So the king took
Bethsura, and set a garrison
there to keep it.**

**6:51 As for the sanctuary he
besieged it many days: and set
there artillery with engines,
and instruments to cast fire
and stones, and pieces to cast
darts, and slings.**

**6:52 Whereupon they also
made engines against their
engines, and held them battle a
long season.**

6:53 Yet at the last, their vessels being without victuals, (for that it was the seventh year, and they in Judea that were delivered from the Gentiles, had eaten up the residue of the store).

6:54 There were but a few left in the sanctuary, because the famine did so prevail against them, that they were fain to disperse themselves, every man to his own place.

6:55 At that time Lysias heard say, that Philip (whom Antiochus the king, whiles he lived had appointed to bring up his son Antiochus, that he might be king).

6:56 Was returned out of Persia, and Media, and the

king's host also that went with him, and that he sought to take unto him the ruling of the affairs.

6:57 Wherefore he went in all haste, and said to the king, and the captains of the host, and the company, We decay daily, and our victuals are but small, and the place we lay siege unto is strong: and the affairs of the kingdom lie upon us.

6:58 Now therefore let us be friends with these men, and make peace with them, and with all their nation.

6:59 And covenant with them, that they shall live after their laws, as they did before: for they are therefore displeased, and have done all these things,

because we abolished their Laws.

6:60 So the king and the princes were content: wherefore he sent unto them to make peace; and they accepted thereof.

6:61 Also the king and the princes made an oath unto them: whereupon they went out of the strong hold.

6:62 Then the king entered into mount Sion; but when he saw the strength of the place, he broke his oath that he had made, and gave commandment to pull down the wall round about.

6:63 Afterward departed he in all haste, and returned unto Antiochia, where he found

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**Philip to be master of the city:
so he fought against him, and
took the city by force.**

1 MACCABEES 1

 **1 In the hundredth and one and fiftieth year, Demetrius the son of Seleucus departed from Rome, and came up with**

a few men unto a city of the sea coast, and reigned there.

2 And as he entered into the palace of his ancestors, so it was, that his forces had taken Antiochus and Lysias to bring them unto him.

3 Wherefore when he knew it, he said; Let me not see their faces.

4 So his host slew them.

Now when Demetrius was set

upon the throne of his kingdom,

z:5 There came unto him all the wicked and ungodly men of Israel, having Alcimus (who was desirous to be high priest) for their captain.

z:6 And they accused the people to the king, saying; Judas and his brethren have slain all thy friends, and driven us out of our own land.

z:7 Now therefore send some man whom thou trustest, and let him go and see what havock he hath made among us, and in the king's land, and let him punish them with all them that aid them.

z:8 Then the king chose Bacchides a friend of the king,

**who ruled beyond the flood,
and was a great man in the
kingdom, and faithful to the
king.**

**z-9 And him he sent with that
wicked Alcimus, whom he
made high priest, and
commanded that he should
take vengeance of the children
of Israel.**

**z-10 So they departed, and
came with a great power into
the land of Judea, where they
sent messengers to Judas and
his brethren with peaceable
words deceitfully.**

**z-11 But they gave no heed to
their words, for they saw that
they were come with a great
power.**

1 MACCABEES

z: 12 Then did there assemble unto Alcimus and Bacchides, a company of scribes, to require justice.

z: 13 Now the Assideans were the first among the children of Israel, that sought peace of them:

z: 14 For, said they, one that is a priest of the seed of Aaron, is come with this army, and he

z: 15 So he spake unto them, peaceably, and sware unto them, saying, we will procure the harm neither of you nor your friends.

z: 16 Whereupon they believed him: howbeit he took of them threescore men, and slew them in one day, according to the words which he wrote:

z: 17 The flesh of thy saints have they cast out and their blood have they shed round about Jerusalem, and there was none to bury them.

z: 18 Wherefore the fear and dread of them fell upon all the people, who said, There is neither truth, nor righteousness in them; for they have broken the covenant and oath that they made.

z: 19 After this removed Bacchides from Jerusalem, and pitched his tents in Bezeth, where he sent and took many of the men that had forsaken him, and certain of the people also, and when he had slain them, he cast them into the great pit.

1 MACCABEES

- z:20** Then committed he the country to Alcimus, and left with him a power to aid him: so Bacchides went to the king.
- z:21** But Alcimus contended for the high priesthood.
- z:22** And unto him resorted all such as troubled the people, who after they had gotten the land of Juda into their power, did much hurt in Israel.
- z:23** Now when Judas saw all the mischief that Alcimus and his company had done among the Israelites, even above the heathen,
- z:24** He went out into all the coasts of Judea round about, and took vengeance of them that had revolted from him, so

that they durst no more go forth into the country.

z-25 On the other side, when Alcimus saw that Judas and his company had gotten the upper hand, and knew that he was not able to abide their force, he went again to the king, and said all the worst of them that he could.

z-26 Then the king sent Nicanor one of his honourable princes, a man that bare deadly hate unto Israel, with commandment to destroy the people.

z-27 So Nicanor came to Jerusalem with a great force: and sent unto Judas and his brethren deceitfully with friendly words, saying,

z-28 Let there be no battle between me and you, I will come with a few men, that I may see you in peace.

z-29 He came therefore to Judas, and they saluted one another peaceably. Howbeit the enemies were prepared to take away Judas by violence.

z-30 Which thing after it was known to Judas (to wit) that he came unto him with deceit, he was sore afraid of him, and would see his face no more.

z-31 Nicanor also when he saw that his counsel was discovered, went out to fight against Judas beside Capharsalama.

z-32 Where there were slain of Nicanor's side, about five

thousand men, and the rest fled into the city of David.

z:33 After this went Nicanor up to mount Sion, and there came out of the sanctuary certain of the priests, and certain of the elders of the people, to salute him peaceably, and to shew him the burnt sacrifice that was offered for the king.

z:34 But he mocked them, and laughed at them, and abused them shamefully, and spake proudly,

z:35 And swore in his wrath, saying, unless Judas and his host be now delivered into my hands, if ever I come again in safety, I will burn up this

house: and with that he went out in a great rage.

z:36 Then the priests entered in, and stood before the altar, and the temple, weeping, and saying,

z:37 Thou O Lord, didst choose this house, to be called by thy name, and to be a house of prayer and petition for thy people.

z:38 Be avenged of this man and his host, and let them fall by the sword: Remember their blasphemies, and suffer them not to continue any longer.

z:39 So Nicanor went out of Jerusalem, and pitched his tents in Bethhoron, where an host out of Syria met him.

z:40 But Judas pitched in Adasa with three thousand men, and there he prayed, saying,

z:41 O Lord, when they that were sent from the king of the Assyrians blasphemed, thine angel went out, and smote an hundred, fourscore, and five thousand of them.

z:42 Even so destroy thou this host before us this day, that the rest may know that he hath spoken blasphemously against thy sanctuary, and judge thou him according to his wickedness.

z:43 So the thirteenth day of the month Adar, the hosts joined battle, but Nicanor's host was discomfited, and he

himself was first slain in the battle.

z:44 Now when Nicanor's host saw that he was slain, they cast away their weapons, and fled.

z:45 Then they pursued after them a day's journey from Adasa unto Gazera, sounding an alarm after them with their trumpets.

z:46 Whereupon they came forth out of all the towns of Judea round about, and closed them in, so that they turning back upon them that pursued them, were all slain with the sword, and not one of them was left.

z:47 Afterwards they took the spoils, and the prey, and smote

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off Nicanors head, and his right hand, which he stretched out so proudly, and brought them away; and hanged them up towards Jerusalem.

z:48 For this cause the people rejoiced greatly, and they kept that day, a day of great gladness.

z:49 Moreover they ordained to keep yearly this day, being the thirteenth of Adar.

1:50 Thus the land of Juda was in rest a little while.

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 **8:1 Now Judas had heard of the Romans, that they were mighty and valiant men, and such as would lovingly accept all that joined themselves unto**

them, and make a league of amity with all that came unto them,

8:2 And that they were men of great valour: It was told him also of their wars and noble acts which they had done among the Galatians, and how they had conquered them, and brought them under tribute.

8:3 And what they had done in the country of Spain, for the winning of the mines of the silver and gold which is there.

8:4 And that by their policy and patience, they had conquered all the place (though it were very far from them) and the kings also that came against them from the uttermost part of the earth, till

**they had discomfited them,
and given them a great
overthrow, so that the rest did
give them tribute every year.**

**8:5 Beside this, how they had
discomfited in battle Philip,
and Perseus, king of the
Citims, with others that lifted
up themselves against them,
and had overcome them.**

**8:6 How also Antiochus the
great king
of Asia that came against them
in battle, having an hundred
and twenty elephants with
horsemen, and chariots, and a
very great army, was
discomfited by them.**

**8:7 And how they took him
alive, and covenanted that he
and such as reigned after him,**

should pay a great tribute, and give hostages, and that which was agreed upon,

8:8 And the country of India, and Media and Lydia, and of the goodliest countries: which they took of him, and gave to king Eumenes.

8:9 Moreover how the Grecians had determined to come and destroy them.

8:10 And that they having knowledge thereof sent against them a certain captain, and fighting with them slew many of them, and carried away captives, their wives and their children, and spoiled them, and took possession of their lands, and pulled down their strong holds, and brought

**them to be their servants unto
this day.**

**8:11 It was told him besides
how they
destroyed and brought under
their dominion, all other
kingdoms and isles that at any
time resisted them.**

**8:12 But with their friends, and
such as relied upon them they
kept amity: and that they had
conquered kingdoms both far
and nigh, insomuch as all that
heard of their name were afraid
of them.**

**8:13 Also that, whom they
would help to a kingdom, those
reign, and whom again they
would, they displace: finally,
that they were greatly exalted.**

8:14 Yet for all this, none of them wore a crown, or was clothed in purple, to be magnified thereby.

8:15 Moreover how they had made for themselves a senate house, wherein three hundred and twenty men sat in council daily, consulting alway for the people, to the end they might be well ordered.

8:16 And that they committed their government to one man every year, who ruled over all their country, and that all were obedient to that one, and that there was neither envy, nor emulation among them.

8:17 In consideration of these things, Judas chose Eupolemus the son of John,

the son of Accos, and Jason
the son of Eleazar, and sent
them to Rome to make a
league of amity and
confederacy with them,

8:18 And to *intreat them* that
they would take the yoke from
them, for they saw that the
kingdom of the Grecians did
oppress Israel with servitude.

8:19 They went therefore to
Rome (which was a very great
journey) and came into the
senate, where they spake and
said,

8:20 Judas Maccabeus with
his brethren, and the people of
the Jews, have sent us unto
you, to make a confederacy
and peace with you, and that

we might be registered, your confederates and friends.

8:21 So that matter pleased the Romans well.

8:22 And this is the copy of the epistle

which (the senate) wrote back again, in tables of brass: and sent to Jerusalem, that there they might have by them a memorial of peace and confederacy.

8:23 Good success be to the Romans and to the people of the Jews, by sea, and by land for ever: the sword also and enemy, be far from them.

8:24 If there come first any war upon the Romans or any of their confederates throughout all their dominion,

8:25 The people of the Jews shall help them, as the time shall be appointed, with all their heart.

8:26 Neither shall they give any thing, unto them that make war upon them, or aid them with victuals, weapons, money, or ships, as it hath seemed good unto the Romans, but they shall keep their covenants without taking any thing therefore.

8:27 In the same manner also, if war come first upon the nation of the Jews, the Romans shall help them with all their heart, according as the time shall be appointed them.

8:28 Neither shall victuals be given to them that take part

against them, or weapons, or money, or ships, as it hath seemed good to the Romans; but they shall keep their covenants, and that without deceit.

8:29 According to these articles did the Romans make a covenant with the people of the Jews.

8:30 Howbeit, if hereafter the one party or the other, shall think to meet to add or diminish any thing, they may do it at their pleasures, and whatsoever they shall add or take away, shall be ratified.

8:31 And as touching the evils that Demetrius doeth to the Jews, we have written unto him, saying, Wherfore thou

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made thy yoke heavy upon our friends, and confederates the Jews?

8:32 If therefore they complain any more against thee: we will do them justice, and fight with thee by sea and by land.

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 **9:1 Furthermore, when Demetrius heard the Nicanor and his host were slain in battle, he sent Bacchides and Alcimus into the land of Judea the second time, and with them the chief strength of his host.**

9:2 Who went forth by the way that leadeth to Galgala, and pitched their tents before Masaloth, which is in Arbela,

and after they had won it, they slew much people.

9:3 Also the first month of the hundred fifty and second year, they encamped before Jerusalem.

9:4 From whence they removed and went to Berea, with twenty thousand footmen and two thousand horsemen.

9:5 Now Judas had pitched his tents at Eleasa, and three thousand chosen men with him.

9:6 Who seeing the multitude of the other army to he so great, were sore afraid, whereupon many conveyed themselves out of the host,

insomuch as abode of them no more but eight hundred men.

9:7 When Judas therefore saw that his host slipt away, and that the battle pressed upon him, he was sore troubled in mind, and much distressed for that he had no time to gather them together.

9:8 Nevertheless unto them that remained he said, Let us arise and go up against our enemies, if peradventure we may be able to fight with them.

9:9 But they dehorted him, saying, We shall never be able: let us now rather save our lives, and hereafter we will return with our brethren, and

fight against them: for we are but few.

9:10 Then Judas said, God forbid that I should do this thing, and flee away from them: if our time be come, let us die manfully for our brethren, and let us not stain our honour.

9:11 With that the host of Bacchides removed out of their tents, and stood over against them, their horsemen being divided into two troops, and their slingers and archers going before the host and they that marched in the forward were all mighty men.

9:12 As for Bacchides, he was in the right wing: so the host

**drew near on the two parts,
and sounded their trumpets.**

**9:13 They also of Judas' side,
even they sounded their
trumpets also, so that the earth
shook at the noise of the
armies, and the battle
continued from morning till
night.**

**9:14 Now when Judas
perceived that Bacchides and
the strength of his army were
on the right side, he took with
him all the hardy men,**

**9:15 Who discomfited the right
wing, and pursued them unto
the mount Azotus.**

**9:16 But when they of the left
wing saw that they of the right
wing were discomfited, they**

**followed upon Judas and those
that were with him hard at the
heels from behind:**

**9:17 Whereupon there was a
sore battle, insomuch as many
were slain on both parts.**

**9:18 Judas also was killed,
and the remnant fled.**

**9:19 Then Jonathan and
Simon took Judas their
brother, and buried him in the
sepulchre of his fathers in
Modin.**

**9:20 Moreover they bewailed
him, and all Israel made great
lamentation for him, and
mourned many days, saying,**

**9:21 How is the valiant man
fallen, that delivered Israel!**

9:22 As for the other things concerning Judas and his wars, and the noble acts which he did, and his greatness, they are not written: for they were very many.

9:23 Now after the death of Judas the wicked began to put forth their heads in all the coasts of Israel, and there arose up all such as wrought iniquity.

9:24 In those days also was there a very great famine, by reason whereof the country revolted, and went with them.

9:25 Then Bacchides chose the wicked men, and made them lords of the country.

9:26 And they made enquiry and search for Judas' friends, and brought them unto Bacchides, who took vengeance of them, and used them despitefully.

9:27 So was there a great affliction in Israel, the like whereof was not since the time that a prophet was not seen among them.

9:28 For this cause all Judas' friends came together, and said unto Jonathan,

9:29 Since thy brother Judas died, we have no man like him to go forth against our enemies, and Bacchides, and against them of our nation that are adversaries to us.

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9:30 Now therefore we have chosen thee this day to be our prince and captain in his stead, that thou mayest fight our battles.

9:31 Upon this Jonathan took the governance upon him at that time, and rose up instead of his brother Judas.

9:32 But when Bacchides gat knowledge thereof, he sought for to slay him

9:33 Then Jonathan, and Simon his brother, and all that were with him, perceiving that, fled into the wilderness of Thecoe, and pitched their tents by the water of the pool Asphar.

9:34 Which when Bacchides understood, he came near to Jordan with all his host upon the sabbath day.

9:35 Now Jonathan had sent his brother John, a captain of the people, to pray his friends the Nabathites, that they might leave with them their carriage, which was much.

9:36 But the children of Jambri came out of Medaba, and took John, and all that he had, and went their way with it.

9:37 After this came word to Jonathan and Simon his brother, that the children of Jambri made a great marriage, and were bringing

**the bride from Nadabatha with
a great train, as being the
daughter of one of the great
princes of Chanaan.**

**9:38 Therefore they
remembered John their
brother, and went up, and hid
themselves under the covert
of the mountain:**

**9:39 Where they lifted up
their eyes, and looked, and,
behold, there was much ado
and great carriage: and the
bridegroom came forth, and
his friends and brethren, to
meet them with drums, and
instruments of musick, and
many weapons.**

**9:40 Then Jonathan and they
that were with him rose up**

against them from the place where they lay in ambush, and made a slaughter of them in such sort, as many fell down dead, and the remnant fled into the mountain, and they took all their spoils.

9:41 Thus was the marriage turned into mourning, and the noise of their melody into lamentation.

9:42 So when they had avenged fully the blood of their brother, they turned again to the marsh of Jordan.

9:43 Now when Bacchides heard hereof, he came on the sabbath day unto the banks of Jordan with a great power.

9:44 Then Jonathan said to his company, Let us go up now and fight for our lives, for it standeth not with us to day, as in time past:

9:45 For, behold, the battle is before us and behind us, and the water of Jordan on this side and that side, the marsh likewise and wood, neither is there place for us to turn aside.

9:46 Wherefore cry ye now unto heaven, that ye may be delivered from the hand of your enemies.

9:47 With that they joined battle, and Jonathan stretched forth his hand to

smite Bacchides, but he turned back from him.

9:48 Then Jonathan and they that were with him leapt into Jordan, and swam over unto the other bank: howbeit the other passed not over Jordan unto them.

9:49 So there were slain of Bacchides' side that day about a thousand men.

9:50 Afterward returned Bacchides to Jerusalem and repaired the strong cites in Judea; the fort in Jericho, and Emmaus, and Bethoron, and Bethel, and Thamnatha, Pharathoni, and Taphon, these did he strengthen with

high walls, with gates and with bars.

9:51 And in them he set a garrison, that they might work malice upon Israel.

9:52 He fortified also the city Bethsura, and Gazera, and the tower, and put forces in them, and provision of victuals.

9:53 Besides, he took the chief men's sons in the country for hostages, and put them into the tower at Jerusalem to be kept.

9:54 Moreover in the hundred fifty and third year, in the second month, Alcimus commanded that the wall of the inner court of the sanctuary should be pulled

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**down; he pulled down also
the works of the prophets**

**9:55 And as he began to pull
down, even at that time was
Alcimus plagued, and his
enterprizes hindered: for his
mouth was stopped, and he
was taken with a palsy, so
that he could no more speak
any thing, nor give order
concerning his house.**

**9:56 So Alcimus died at that
time with great torment.**

**9:57 Now when Bacchides
saw that Alcimus was dead,
he returned to the king:
whereupon the land of Judea
was in rest two years.**

**9:58 Then all the ungodly
men held a council, saying,**

Behold, Jonathan and his company are at ease, and dwell without care: now therefore we will bring Bacchides hither, who shall take them all in one night.

9:59 So they went and consulted with him.

9:60 Then removed he, and came with a great host, and sent letters privily to his adherents in Judea, that they should take Jonathan and those that were with him: howbeit they could not, because their counsel was known unto them.

9:61 Wherefore they took of the men of the country, that were authors of that mischief,

about fifty persons, and slew them.

9:62 Afterward Jonathan, and Simon, and they that were with him, got them away to Bethbasi, which is in the wilderness, and they repaired the decays thereof, and made it strong.

9:63 Which thing when Bacchides knew, he gathered together all his host, and sent word to them that were of Judea.

9:64 Then went he and laid siege against Bethbasi; and they fought against it a long season and made engines of war.

9:65 But Jonathan left his brother Simon in the city, and went forth himself into the country, and with a certain number went he forth.

9:66 And he smote Odonarkes and his brethren, and the children of Phasiron in their tent.

9:67 And when he began to smite them, and came up with his forces, Simon and his company went out of the city, and burned up the engines of war,

9:68 And fought against Bacchides, who was discomfited by them, and they afflicted him sore: for his

counsel and travail was in vain.

9:69 Wherefore he was very wroth at the wicked men that gave him counsel to come into the country, inasmuch as he slew many of them, and purposed to return into his own country.

9:70 Whereof when Jonathan had knowledge, he sent ambassadors unto him, to the end he should make peace with him, and deliver them the prisoners.

9:71 Which thing he accepted, and did according to his demands, and sware unto him that he would never

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do him harm all the days of his life.

9:72 When therefore he had restored unto him the prisoners that he had taken aforetime out of the land of Judea, he returned and went his way into his own land, neither came he any more into their borders.

9:73 Thus the sword ceased from Israel: but Jonathan dwelt at Machmas, and began to govern the people; and he destroyed the ungodly men out of Israel.

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10:1 In the hundred and sixtieth year Alexander, the

son of Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, went up and took Ptolemais: for the people had received him, by means whereof he reigned there,

10:2 Now when king Demetrius heard thereof, he gathered together an exceeding great host, and went forth against him to fight.

10:3 Moreover Demetrius sent letters unto Jonathan with loving words, so as he magnified him.

10:4 For said he, Let us first make peace with him, before he join with Alexander against us:

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10:5 Else he will remember all the evils that we have done against him, and against his brethren and his people.

10:6 Wherefore he gave him authority to gather together an host, and to provide weapons, that he might aid him in battle: he commanded also that the hostages that were in the tower should be delivered him.

10:7 Then came Jonathan to Jeru-salem, and read the letters in the audience of all the people, and of them that were in the tower:

10:8 Who were sore afraid, when they heard that the king

had given him authority to gather together an host.

10:9 Whereupon they of the tower delivered their hostages unto Jonathan, and he delivered them unto their parents.

10:10 This done, Jonathan settled himself in Jerusalem, and began to build and repair the city.

10:11 And he commanded the workmen to build the walls and the mount Sion and about with square stones for fortification; and they did so.

10:12 Then the strangers, that were in the fortresses which Bacchides had built, fled away;

10:13 In somuch as every man left his place, and went into his own country.

10:14 Only at Bethsura certain of those that had forsaken the law and the commandments remained still: for it was their place of refuge.

10:15 Now when king Alexander had heard what promises Demetrius had sent unto Jonathan: when also it was told him of the battles and noble acts which he and his brethren had done, and of the pains that they had endured,

10:16 He said, Shall we find such another man? now

therefore we will make him our friend and confederate.

10:17 Upon this he wrote a letter, and sent it unto him, according to these words, saying,

10:18 King Alexander to his brother Jonathan sendeth greeting:

10:19 We have heard of thee, that thou art a man of great power, and meet to be our friend.

10:20 Wherefore now this day we ordain thee to be the high priest of thy nation, and to be called the king's friend; (and therewithal he sent him a purple robe and a crown of gold:) and require thee to take

**our part, and keep friendship
with us.**

**10:21 So in the seventh
month of the hundred and
sixtieth year, at the feast of
the tabernacles, Jonathan put
on the holy robe, and
gathered together forces, and
provided much armour.**

**10:22 Whereof when
Demetrius heard, he was very
sorry, and said,**

**10:23 What have we done,
that Alexander hath prevented
us in making amity with the
Jews to strengthen himself?**

**10:24 I also will write unto
them words of
encouragement, and promise**

them dignities and gifts, that I may have their aid.

10:25 He sent unto them therefore to this effect: King Demetrius unto the people of the Jews sendeth greeting:

10:26 Whereas ye have kept covenants with us, and continued in our friendship, not joining yourselves with our enemies, we have heard hereof, and are glad.

10:27 Wherfore now continue ye still to be faithful unto us, and we will well recompense you for the things ye do in our behalf,

10:28 And will grant you many immunities, and give you rewards.

10:29 And now do I free you, and for your sake I release all the Jews, from tributes, and from the customs of salt, and from crown taxes,

10:30 And from that which appertain-eth unto me to receive for the third part or the seed, and the half of the fruit of the trees, I release it from this day forth, so that they shall not be taken of the land of Judea, nor of the three governments which are added thereunto out of the country of Samaria and Galilee, from this day forth for evermore.

10:31 Let Jerusalem also be holy and free, with the borders thereof, both from tenths and tributes.

10:32 And as for the tower which is at Jerusalem, I yield up authority over it, and give the high priest, that he may set in it such men as he shall choose to keep it.

10:33 Moreover I freely set at liberty every one of the Jews, that were carried captives out of the land of Judea into any part of my kingdom, and I will that all my officers remit the tributes even of their cattle.

10:34 Furthermore I will that all the feasts, and sabbaths, and new moons, and solemn days, and the three days before the feast, and the three days after the feast shall be all of immunity and freedom for all the Jews in my realm.

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10:35 Also no man shall have authority to meddle with or to molest any of them in any matter.

10:36 I will further, that there be enrolled among the king's forces about thirty thousand men of the Jews, unto whom pay shall be given, as belongeth to all king's forces.

10:37 And of them some shall be placed in the king's strong holds, of whom also some shall be set over the affairs of the kingdom, which are of trust: and I will that their overseers and governors be of themselves, and that they live after their own laws, even as the king hath

commanded in the land of Judea.

10:38 And concerning the three governments that are added to Judea from the country of Samaria, let them be joined with Judea, that they may be reckoned to be under one, nor bound to obey other authority than the high priest's.

10:39 As for Ptolemais, and the land pertaining thereto, I give it as a free gift to the sanctuary at Jerusalem for the necessary expences of the sanctuary.

10:40 Moreover I give every year fifteen thousand shekels

of silver out of the king's accounts from the places appertaining.

10:41 And all the overplus, which the officers payed not in as in former time, from henceforth shall be given toward the works of the temple.

10:42 And beside this, the five thousand shekels of silver, which they took from the uses of the temple out of the accounts year by year, even those things shall be released, because they appertain to the priests that minister.

10:43 And whosoever they be that flee unto the temple at

**Jerusalem, or be within the
liberties hereof, being
indebted unto the king, or for
any other matter, let them be
at liberty, and all that they
have in my realm.**

**10:44 For the building also
and repairing of the works of
the sanctuary expences shall
be given of the king's
accounts.**

**10:45 Yea, and for the
building of the walls of
Jerusalem, and the fortifying
thereof round about,
expences shall be given out
of the king's accounts, as
also for the building of the
walls in Judea.**

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10:46 Now when Jonathan and the people heard these words, they gave no credit unto them, nor received them, because they remembered the great evil that he had done in Israel; for he had afflicted them very sore.

10:47 But with Alexander they were well pleased, because he was the first that entreated of true peace with them, and they were confederate with him always.

10:48 Then gathered king Alexander great forces, and camped over against Demetrius.

10:49 And after the two kings had joined battle, Demetrius'

host fled: but Alexander followed after him, and prevailed against them.

10:50 And he continued the battle very sore until the sun went down: and that day was Demetrius slain.

10:51 Afterward Alexander sent ambassa-dors to Ptolemy king of Egypt with a message to this effect:

10:52 Forasmuch as I am come again to my realm, and am set in the throne of my progenitors, and have gotten the dominion, and overthrown Demetrius, and recovered our country;

10:53 For after I had joined battle with him, both he and

his host was discomfited by us, so that we sit in the throne of his kingdom:

10:54 Now therefore let us make a league of amity together, and give me now thy daughter to wife: and I will be thy son in law, and will give both thee and her as according to thy dignity.

10:55 Then Ptoleme the king gave answer, saying, Happy be the day wherein thou didst return into the land of thy fathers, and satest in the throne of their kingdom.

10:56 And now will I do to thee, as thou hast written: meet me therefore at Ptolemais, that we may see

**one another; for I will marry
my daughter to thee
according to thy desire.**

**10:57 So Ptoleme went out
of Egypt with his daughter
Cleopatra, and they came
unto Ptolemais in the hundred
threescore and second year:**

**10:58 Where king Alexander
meeting him, he gave unto
him his daughter Cleopatra,
and celebrated her marriage
at Ptolemais with great glory,
as the manner of kings is.**

**10:59 Now king Alexander
had written unto Jonathan,
that he should come and meet
him.**

**10:60 Who thereupon went
honourably to Ptolemais,**

**where he met the two kings,
and gave them and their
friends silver and gold, and
many presents, and found
favour in their sight.**

**10:61 At that time certain
pestilent fellows of Israel,
men of a wicked life,
assembled themselves
against him, to accuse him:
but the king would not hear
them.**

**10:62 Yea more than that, the
king commanded to take off
his garments, and clothe him
in purple: and they did so.**

**10:63 And he made him sit by
himself, and said into his
princes, Go with him into the
midst of the city, and make**

proclamation, that no man complain against him of any matter, and that no man trouble him for any manner of cause.

10:64 Now when his accusers saw that he was honored according to the proclamation, and clothed in purple, they fled all away.

10:65 So the king honoured him, and wrote him among his chief friends, and made him a duke, and partaker of his dominion.

10:66 Afterward Jonathan returned to Jerusalem with peace and gladness.

10:67 Furthermore in the hundred threescore and fifth

**year came Demetrius son of
Demetrius out of Crete into
the land of his fathers:**

**10:68 Whereof when king
Alexander heard tell, he was
right sorry, and returned into
Antioch.**

**10:69 Then Demetrius made
Apollonius the governor of
Celosyria his general, who
gathered together a great
host, and camped in Jamnia,
and sent unto Jonathan the
high priest, saying,**

**10:70 Thou alone liftest up
thyself against us, and I am
laughed to scorn for thy sake,
and reproached: and why
dost thou vaunt thy power
against us in the mountains?**

10:71 Now therefore, if thou trustest in thine own strength, come down to us into the plain field, and there let us try the matter together: for with me is the power of the cities.

10:72 Ask and learn who I am, and the rest that take our part, and they shall tell thee that thy foot is not able to to flight in their own land.

10:73 Wherefore now thou shalt not be able to abide the horsemen and so great a power in the plain, where is neither stone nor flint, nor place to flee unto.

10:74 So when Jonathan heard these words of Apollonius, he was moved in

his mind, and choosing ten thousand men he went out of Jerusalem, where Simon his brother met him for to help him.

10:75 And he pitched his tents against Joppa: but; they of Joppa shut him out of the city, because Apollonius had a garrison there.

10:76 Then Jonathan laid siege unto it: whereupon they of the city let him in for fear: and so Jonathan won Joppa.

10:77 Whereof when Apollonius heard, he took three thousand horsemen, with a great host of footmen, and went to Azotus as one that journeyed, and

therewithal drew him forth into the plain. because he had a great number of horsemen, in whom he put his trust.

10:78 Then Jonathan followed after him to Azotus, where the armies joined battle.

10:79 Now Apollonius had left a thousand horsemen in ambush.

10:80 And Jonathan knew that there was an ambushment behind him; for they had compassed in his host, and cast darts at the people, from morning till evening.

10:81 But the people stood still, as Jonathan had

commanded them: and so the enemies' horses were tired.

10:82 Then brought Simon forth his host, and set them against the footmen, (for the horsemen were spent) who were discomfited by him, and fled.

10:83 The horsemen also, being scattered in the field, fled to Azotus, and went into Bethdagon, their idol's temple, for safety.

10:84 But Jonathan set fire on Azotus, and the cities round about it, and took their spoils; and the temple of Dagon, with them that were

fled into it, he burned with fire.

10:85 Thus there were burned and slain with the sword well nigh eight thousand men.

10:86 And from thence Jonathan removed his host, and camped against Ascalon, where the men of the city came forth, and met him with great pomp.

10:87 After this returned Jonathan and his host unto Jerusalem, having any spoils.

10:88 Now when king Alexander heard these things, he honoured Jonathan yet more.

1 MACCABEES

10:89 And sent him a buckle of gold, as the use is to be given to such as are of the king's blood: he gave him also Accaron with the borders thereof in possession.

1 MACCABEES 11

 **11:1** And the king of Egypt gathered together a great host, like the sand that lieth upon the sea shore, and many ships, and went about through deceit to get Alexander's kingdom, and join it to his own.

11:2 Whereupon he took his journey into Spain in peaceable manner, so as they of the cities opened unto him,

and met him: for king Alexander had commanded them so to do, because he was his brother in law.

11:3 Now as Ptoleme entered into the cities, he set in every one of them a garrison of soldiers to keep it.

11:4 And when he came near to Azotus, they shewed him the temple of Dagon that was burnt, and Azotus and the suburbs thereof that were destroyed, and the bodies that were cast abroad and them that he had burnt in the battle; for they had made heaps of them by the way where he should pass.

1 MACCABEES

11:5 Also they told the king whatsoever Jonathan had done, to the intent he might blame him: but the king held his peace.

11:6 Then Jonathan met the king with great pomp at Joppa, where they saluted one another, and lodged.

11:7 Afterward Jonathan, when he had gone with the king to the river called Eleutherus, returned again to Jerusalem.

11:8 King Ptolemee therefore, having gotten the dominion of the cities by the sea unto Seleucia upon the sea coast, imagined wicked counsels against Alexander.

1 MACCABEES

11:9 Whereupon he sent ambasadors unto king Demetrius, saying, Come, let us make a league betwixt us, and I will give thee my daughter whom Alexander hath, and thou shalt reign in thy father's kingdom:

11:10 For I repent that I gave my daughter unto him, for he sought to slay me.

11:11 Thus did he slander him, because he was desirous of his kingdom.

11:12 Wherefore he took his daughter from him, and gave her to Demetrius, and forsook Alexander, so that their hatred was openly known.

1 MACCABEES

11:13 Then Ptoleme entered into Antioch, where he set two crowns upon his head, the crown of Asia, and of Egypt.

11:14 In the mean season was king Alexander in Cilicia, because those that dwelt in those parts had revolted from him.

11:15 But when Alexander heard of this, he came to war against him: whereupon king Ptoleme brought forth his host, and met him with a mighty power, and put him to flight.

11:16 So Alexander fled into Arabia there to be defended;

**but king Ptoleme was
exalted:**

**11:17 For Zabdiel the Arabian
took off Alexander's head,
and sent it unto Ptoleme.**

**11:18 King Ptoleme also
died the third day after, and
they that were in the strong
holds were slain one of
another.**

**11:19 By this means
Demetrius reigned in the
hundred threescore and
seventh year.**

**11:20 At the same time
Jonathan gathered together
them that were in Judea to
take the tower that was in
Jerusalem: and he made**

many engines of war against it.

11:21 Then came ungodly persons, who hated their own people, went unto the king, and told him that Jonathan besieged the tower,

11:22 Whereof when he heard, he was angry, and immediately removing, he came to Ptolemais, and wrote unto Jonathan, that he should not lay siege to the tower, but come and speak with him at Ptolemais in great haste.

11:23 Nevertheless Jonathan, when he heard this, commanded to besiege it still: and he chose certain of the elders of Israel and the

**priests, and put himself in
peril;**

**11:24 And took silver and
gold, and raiment, and divers
presents besides, and went to
Ptolemais unto the king,
where he found favour in his
sight.**

**11:25 And though certain
ungodly men of the people
had made complaints against
him,**

**11:26 Yet the king entreated
him as his predecessors had
done before, and promoted
him in the sight of all his
friends,**

**11:27 And confirmed him in
the high priesthood, and in all
the honours that he had**

before, and gave him preeminence among his chief friends.

11:28 Then Jonathan desired the king, that he would make Judea free from tribute, as also the three governments, with the country of Samaria; and he promised him three hundred talents.

11:29 So the king consented, and wrote letters unto Jonathan of all these things after this manner:

11:30 King Demetrius unto his brother Jonathan, and unto the nation of the Jews, sendeth greeting:

11:31 We send you here a copy of the letter which we

**did write unto our cousin
Lasthenes concerning you,
that ye might see it.**

**11:32 King Demetrius unto
his father Lasthenes sendeth
greeting:**

**11:33 We are determined to
do good to the people of the
Jews, who are our friends,
and keep covenants with us,
because of their good will
toward us.**

**11:34 Wherefore we have
ratified unto them the borders
of Judea, with the three
governments of Apherema
and Lydda and Ramathem,
that are added unto Judea
from the country of Samaria,
and all things appertaining**

unto them, for all such as do sacrifice in Jerusalem, instead of the payments which the king received of them yearly aforetime out of the fruits of the earth and of trees.

11:35 And as for other things that belong unto us, of the tithes and customs pertaining unto us, as also the saltpits, and the crown taxes, which are due unto us, we discharge them of them all for their relief.

11:36 And nothing hereof shall be revoked from this time forth for ever.

11:37 Now therefore see that thou make a copy of these

things, and let it be delivered unto Jonathan, and set upon the holy mount in a conspicuous place.

11:38 After this, when king Demetrius saw that the land was quiet before him, and that no resistance was made against him, he sent away all his forces, every one to his own place, except certain bands of strangers, whom he had gathered from the isles of the heathen: wherefore all the forces of his fathers hated him.

11:39 Moreover there was one Tryphon, that had been of Alexander's part afore, who, seeing that all the host murmured against Demetrius,

**went to Simalcue the Arabian
that brought up Antiochus the
young son of Alexander,**

**11:40 And lay sore upon him
to deliver him this young
Antiochus, that he might
reign in his father's stead: he
told him therefore all that
Demetrius had done, and how
his men of war were at enmity
with him, and there he
remained a long season.**

**11:41 In the mean time
Jonathan sent unto king
Demetrius, that he would cast
those of the tower out of
Jerusalem, and those also in
the fortresses: for they fought
against Israel.**

11:42 So Demetrius sent unto Jonathan, saying, I will not only do this for thee and thy people, but I will greatly honour thee and thy nation, if opportunity serve.

11:43 Now therefore thou shalt do well, if thou send me men to help me; for all my forces are gone from me.

11:44 Upon this Jonathan sent him three thousand strong men unto Antioch: and when they came to the king, the king was very glad of their coming.

11:45 Howbeit they that were of the city gathered themselves together into the midst of the city, to the

number of an hundred and twenty thousand men, and would have slain the king.

11:46 Wherefore the king fled into the court, but they of the city kept the passages of the city, and began to fight.

11:47 Then the king called to the Jews for help, who came unto him all at once, and dispersing themselves through the city slew that day in the city to the number of an hundred thousand.

11:48 Also they set fire on the city, and gat many spoils that day, and delivered the king.

11:49 So when they of the city saw that the Jews had got

the city as they would, their courage was abated: wherefore they made supplication to the king, and cried, saying,

11:50 Grant us peace, and let the Jews cease from assaulting us and the city.

11:51 With that they cast away their weapons, and made peace; and the Jews were honoured in the sight of the king, and in the sight of all that were in his realm; and they returned to Jerusalem, having great spoils.

11:52 So king Demetrius sat on the throne of his kingdom, and the land was quiet before him.

11:53 Nevertheless he dissembled in all that ever he spake, and estranged himself from Jonathan, neither rewarded he him according to the benefits which he had received of him, but troubled him very sore.

11:54 After this returned Tryphon, and with him the young child Antiochus, who reigned, and was crowned.

11:55 Then there gathered unto him all the men of war, whom Demetrius had put away, and they fought against Demetrius, who turned his back and fled.

11:56 Moreover Tryphon took the elephants, and won Antioch.

11:57 At that time young Antiochus wrote unto Jonathan, saying, I confirm thee in the high priesthood, and appoint thee ruler over the four governments, and to be one of the king's friends.

11:58 Upon this he sent him golden vessels to be served in, and gave him leave to drink in gold, and to be clothed in purple, and to wear a golden buckle.

11:59 His brother Simon also he made captain from the place called The ladder of

Tyrus unto the borders of Egypt.

11:60 Then Jonathan went forth, and passed through the cities beyond the water, and all the forces of Syria gathered themselves unto him for to help him: and when he came to Ascalon, they of the city met him honourably.

11:61 From whence he went to Gaza, but they of Gaza shut him out; wherefore he laid siege unto it, and burned the suburbs thereof with fire, and spoiled them.

11:62 Afterward, when they of Gaza made supplication unto Jonathan, he made peace with them, and took the

sons of their chief men for hostages, and sent them to Jerusalem, and passed through the country unto Damascus.

11:63 Now when Jonathan heard that Demetrius' princes were come to Cades, which is in Galilee, with a great power, purposing to remove him out of the country,

11:64 He went to meet them, and left Simon his brother in the country.

11:65 Then Simon encamped against Bethsura and fought against it a long season, and shut it up:

11:66 But they desired to have peace with him, which

he granted them, and then put them out from thence, and took the city, and set a garrison in it.

11:67 As for Jonathan and his host, they pitched at the water of Gennesar, from whence betimes in the morning they gat them to the plain of Nasor.

11:68 And, behold, the host of strangers met them in the plain, who, having laid men in ambush for him in the mountains, came themselves over against him.

11:69 So when they that lay in ambush rose out of their places and joined battle, all

that were of Jonathan's side fled;

11:70 Insomuch as there was not one of them left, except Mattathias the son of Absalom, and Judas the son of Calphi, the captains of the host.

11:71 Then Jonathan rent his clothes, and cast earth upon his head, and prayed.

11:72 Afterwards turning again to battle, he put them to flight, and so they ran away.

11:73 Now when his own men that were fled saw this, they turned again unto him, and with him pursued them to Cades, even unto their own tents, and there they camped.

1 MACCABEES

11:74 So there were slain of the heathen that day about three thousand men: but Jonathan returned to Jerusalem.

1 MACCABEES 12

 **12:1** Now when Jonathan saw that time served him, he chose certain men, and sent them to Rome, for to confirm and renew the friendship that they had with them.

12:2 He sent letters also to the Lacedemonians, and to other places, for the same purpose.

12:3 So they went unto Rome, and entered into the senate, and said, Jonathan the high priest, and the people of the

Jews, sent us unto you, to the end ye should renew the friendship, which ye had with them, and league, as in former time.

12:4 Upon this the Romans gave them letters unto the governors of every place that they should bring them into the land of Judea peaceably.

12:5 And this is the copy of the letters which Jonathan wrote to the Lacedemonians:

12:6 Jonathan the high priest, and the elders of the nation, and the priests, and the other of the Jews, unto the Lacedemonians their brethren send greeting:

1 MACCABEES

12:7 There were letters sent in times past unto Onias the high priest from Darius, who reigned then among you, to signify that ye are our brethren, as the copy here underwritten doth specify.

12:8 At which time Onias entreated the ambassador that was sent honourably, and received the letters, wherein declaration was made of the league and friendship.

12:9 Therefore we also, albeit we need none of these things, that we have the holy books of scripture in our hands to comfort us,

12:10 Have nevertheless attempted to send unto you

for the renewing of
brotherhood and friendship,
lest we should become
strangers unto you
altogether: for there is a long
time passed since ye sent
unto us.

12: 11 We therefore at all
times without ceasing, both in
our feasts, and other
convenient days, do
remember you in the
sacrifices which we offer, and
in our prayers, as reason is,
and as it becometh us to think
upon our brethren:

12: 12 And we are right glad
of your honour.

12: 13 As for ourselves, we
have had great troubles and

wars on every side,
forsomuch as the kings that
are round about us have
fought against us.

12: 14 Howbeit we would not
be troublesome unto you, nor
to others of our confederates
and friends, in these wars:

12: 15 For we have help from
heaven that succoureth us, so
as we are delivered from our
enemies, and our enemies are
brought under foot.

12: 16 For this cause we
chose Numenius the son of
Antiochus, and Antipater the
son of Jason, and sent them
unto the Romans, to renew
the amity that we had with
them, and the former league.

1 MACCABEES

12:17 We commanded them also to go unto you, and to salute and to deliver you our letters concerning the renewing of our brotherhood.

12:18 Wherefore now ye shall do well to give us an answer thereto.

12:19 And this is the copy of the letters which Oniaries sent.

12:20 Areus king of the Lacedemonians to Onias the high priest, greeting:

12:21 It is found in writing, that the Lacedemonians and Jews are brethren, and that they are of the stock of Abraham:

1 MACCABEES

12:22 Now therefore, since this is come to our knowledge, ye shall do well to write unto us of your prosperity.

12:23 We do write back again to you, that your cattle and goods are our's, and our's are your's We do command therefore our ambassadors to make report unto you on this wise.

12:24 Now when Jonathan heard that Demebius' princes were come to fight against him with a greater host than afore,

12:25 He removed from Jerusalem, and met them in the land of Amathis: for he

gave them no respite to enter his country.

12:26 He sent spies also unto their tents, who came again, and told him that they were appointed to come upon them in the night season.

12:27 Wherefore so soon as the sun was down, Jonathan commanded his men to watch, and to be in arms, that all the night long they might be ready to fight: also he sent forth centinels round about the host.

12:28 But when the adversaries heard that Jonathan and his men were ready for battle, they feared, and trembled in their hearts,

and they kindled fires in their camp.

12:29 Howbeit Jonathan and his company knew it not till the morning: for they saw the lights burning.

12:30 Then Jonathan pursued after them, but overtook them not: for they were gone over the river Eleutherus.

12:31 Wherefore Jonathan turned to the Arabians, who were called Zabadeans, and smote them, and took their spoils.

12:32 And removing thence, he came to Damascus, and so passed through all the country,

12:33 Simon also went forth, and passed through the country unto Ascalon, and the holds there adjoining, from whence he turned aside to Joppa, and won it.

12:34 For he had heard that they would deliver the hold unto them that took Demetrius' part; wherefore he set a garrison there to keep it.

12:35 After this came Jonathan home again, and calling the elders of the people together, he consulted with them about building strong holds in Judea,

12:36 And making the walls of Jerusalem higher, and raising a great mount

between the tower and the city, for to separate it from the city, that so it might be alone, that men might neither sell nor buy in it.

12:37 Upon this they came together to build up the city, forasmuch as part of the wall toward the brook on the east side was fallen down, and they repaired that which was called Caphenatha.

12:38 Simon also set up Adida in Sephela, and made it strong with gates and bars.

12:39 Now Tryphon went about to get the kingdom of Asia, and to kill Antiochus the king, that he might set the crown upon his own head.

12:40 Howbeit he was afraid that Jonathan would not suffer him, and that he would fight against him; wherefore he sought a way how to take Jonathan, that he might kill him. So he removed, and came to Bethsan.

12:41 Then Jonathan went out to meet him with forty thousand men chosen for the battle, and came to Bethsan.

12:42 Now when Tryphon saw Jonathan came with so great a force, he durst not stretch his hand against him;

12:43 But received him honourably, and commended him unto all his friends, and gave him gifts, and

commanded his men of war to be as obedient unto him, as to himself.

12:44 Unto Jonathan also he said, Why hast thou brought all this people to so great trouble, seeing there is no war betwixt us?

12:45 Therefore send them now home again, and choose a few men to wait on thee, and come thou with me to Ptolemais, for I will give it thee, and the rest of the strong holds and forces, and all that have any charge: as for me, I will return and depart: for this is the cause of my coming.

1 MACCABEES

12:46 So Jonathan believing him did as he bade him, and sent away his host, who went into the land of Judea.

12:47 And with himself he retained but three thousand men, of whom he sent two thousand into Galilee, and one thousand went with him.

12:48 Now as soon as Jonathan entered into Ptolemais, they of Ptolemais shut the gates and took him, and all them that came with him they slew with the sword.

12:49 Then sent Tryphon an host of footmen and horsemen into Galilee, and into the great plain, to destroy all Jonathan's company.

1 MACCABEES

12:50 But when they knew that Jonathan and they that were with him were taken and slain, they encouraged one another; and went close together, prepared to fight.

12:51 They therefore that followed upon them, perceiving that they were ready to fight for their lives, turned back again.

12:52 Whereupon they all came into the land of Judea peaceably, and there they bewailed Jonathan, and them that were with him, and they were sore afraid; wherefore all Israel made great lamentation.

1 MACCABEES

12:53 Then all the heathen that were round about them sought to destroy them: for said they, They have no captain, nor any to help them: now therefore let us make war upon them, and take away their memorial from among men.

1 MACCABEES 13



13:1 Now when Simon heard that Tryphon had gathered together a great host to invade the land of Judea, and destroy it,

13:2 And saw that the people was in great trembling and fear, he went up to Jerusalem, and gathered the people together,

13:3 And gave them exhortation, saying, Ye yourselves know what great things I, and my brethren, and my father's house, have done for the laws and the sanctuary, the battles also and troubles which we have seen.

13:4 By reason whereof all my brethren are slain for Israel's sake, and I am left alone.

13:5 Now therefore be it far from me, that I should spare mine own life in any time of trouble: for I am no better than my brethren.

13:6 Doubtless I will avenge my nation, and the sanctuary,

and our wives, and our children: for all the heathen are gathered to destroy us of very malice.

13:7 Now as soon as the people heard these words, their spirit revived.

13:8 And they answered with a loud voice, saying, Thou shalt be our leader instead of Judas and Jonathan thy brother.

13:9 Fight thou our battles, and whatsoever, thou commandest us, that will we do.

13:10 So then he gathered together all the men of war, and made haste to finish the

walls of Jerusalem, and he fortified it round about.

13:11 Also he sent Jonathan the son of Absolom, and with him a great power, to Joppa: who casting out them that were therein remained there in it.

13:12 So Tryphon removed from Ptolemaus with a great power to invade the land of Judea, and Jonathan was with him in ward.

13:13 But Simon pitched his tents at Adida, over against the plain.

13:14 Now when Tryphon knew that Simon was risen up instead of his brother Jonathan, and meant to join

battle with him, he sent messengers unto him, saying,

13: 15 Whereas we have Jonathan thy brother in hold, it is for money that he is owing unto the king's treasure, concerning the business that was committed unto him.

13: 16 Wherefore now send an hundred talents of silver, and two of his sons for hostages, that when he is at liberty he may not revolt from us, and we will let him go.

13: 17 Hereupon Simon, albeit he perceived that they spake deceitfully unto him yet sent he the money and the children, lest peradventure he

should procure to himself great hatred of the people:

13:18 Who might have said, Because I sent him not the money and the children, therefore is Jonathan dead.

13:19 So he sent them the children and the hundred talents: howbeit Tryphon dissembled neither would he let Jonathan go.

13:20 And after this came Tryphon to invade the land, and destroy it, going round about by the way that leadeth unto Adora: but Simon and his host marched against him in every place, wheresoever he went.

13:21 Now they that were in the tower sent messengers unto Tryphon, to the end that he should hasten his coming unto them by the wilderness, and send them victuals.

13:22 Wherefore Tryphon made ready all his horsemen to come that night: but there fell a very great snow, by reason whereof he came not.

So he departed, and came into the country of Galaad.

13:23 And when he came near to Bascama he slew Jonathan, who was buried there.

13:24 Afterward Tryphon returned and went into his own land.

1 MACCABEES

13:25 Then sent Simon, and took the bones of Jonathan his brother, and buried them in Modin, the city of his fathers.

13:26 And all Israel made great lamentation for him, and bewailed him many days.

13:27 Simon also built a monument upon the sepulcher of his father and his brethren, and raised it aloft to the sight, with hewn stone behind and before.

13:28 Moreover he set up seven pyramids, one against another, for his father, and his mother, and his four brethren.

13:29 And in these he made cunning devices, about the

which he set great pillars, and upon the pillars he made all their armour for a perpetual memory, and by the armour ships carved, that they might be seen of all that sail on the sea.

13:30 This is the sepulcher which he made at Modin, and it standeth yet unto this day.

13:31 Now Tryphon dealt deceitfully with the young king Antiochus, and slew him.

13:32 And he reigned in his stead, and crowned himself king of Asia, and brought a great calamity upon the land.

13:33 Then Simon built up the strong holds in Judea, and fenced them about with

**high towers, and great walls,
and gates, and bars, and laid
up victuals therein.**

13:34 Moreover Simon chose
men, and sent to king
Demetrius, to the end he
should give the land an
immunity, because all that
Tryphon did was to spoil.

13:35 Unto whom king
Demetrius answered and
wrote after this manner:

13:36 King Demetrius unto
Simon the high priest, and
friend of kings, as also unto
the elders and nation of the
Jews, sendeth greeting:

13:37 The golden crown, and
the scarlet robe, which ye
sent unto us, we have

received: and we are ready to make a steadfast peace with you, yea, and to write unto our officers, to confirm the immunities which we have granted.

13:38 And whatsoever covenants we have made with you shall stand; and the strong holds, which ye have builded, shall be your own.

13:39 As for any oversight or fault committed unto this day, we forgive it, and the crown tax also, which ye owe us: and if there were any other tribute paid in Jerusalem, it shall no more be paid.

13:40 And look who are meet among you to be in our court,

**let then be enrolled, and let
there be peace betwixt us.**

**13:41 Thus the yoke of the
heathen was taken away from
Israel in the hundred and
seventieth year.**

**13:42 Then the people of
Israel began to write in their
instruments and contracts, In
the first year of Simon the
high priest, the governor and
leader of the Jews.**

**13:43 In those days Simon
camped against Gaza and
besieged it round about; he
made also an engine of war,
and set it by the city, and
battered a certain tower, and
took it.**

13:44 And they that were in the engine leaped into the city; whereupon there was a great uproar in the city:

13:45 Insomuch as the people of the city rent their clothes, and climbed upon the walls with their wives and children, and cried with a loud voice, beseeching Simon to grant them peace.

13:46 And they said, Deal not with us according to our wickedness, but according to thy mercy.

13:47 So Simon was appeased toward them, and fought no more against them, but put them out of the city, and cleansed the houses

wherein the idols were, and so entered into it with songs and thanksgiving.

13:48 Yea, he put all uncleanness out of it, and placed such men there as would keep the law, and made it stronger than it was before, and built therein a dwelling place for himself.

13:49 They also of the tower in Jerusalem were kept so strait, that they could neither come forth, nor go into the country, nor buy, nor sell: wherefore they were in great distress for want of victuals, and a great number of them perished through famine.

13:50 Then cried they to Simon, beseeching him to be at one with them: which thing he granted them; and when he had put them out from thence, he cleansed the tower from pollutions:

13:51 And entered into it the three and twentieth day of the second month in the hundred seventy and first year, with thanksgiving, and branches of palm trees, and with harps, and cymbals, and with viols, and hymns, and songs: because there was destroyed a great enemy out of Israel.

13:52 He ordained also that that day should be kept every year with gladness. Moreover, the hill of the temple that was

1 MACCABEES

by the tower he made stronger than it was, and there he dwelt himself with his company.

13:53 And when Simon saw that John his son was a valiant man, he made him captain of all the hosts; and he dwelt in Gazera.

1 MACCABEES 14

 **14:1** Now in the hundred threescore and twelfth year king Demetrius gathered his forces together, and went into Media to get him help to fight against Tryphone.

14:2 But when Arsaces, the king of Persia and Media, heard that Demetrius was entered within his borders, he

sent one of his princes to take him alive:

14:3 Who went and smote the host of Demetrius, and took him, and brought him to Arsaces, by whom he was put in ward.

14:4 As for the land of Judea, that was quiet all the days of Simon; for he sought the good of his nation in such wise, as that evermore his authority and honour pleased them well.

14:5 And as he was honourable in all his acts, so in this, that he took Joppa for an haven, and made an entrance to the isles of the sea,

14:6 And enlarged the bounds of his nation, and recovered the country,

14:7 And gathered together a great number of captives, and had the dominion of Gazera, and Bethsura, and the tower, out of the which he took all uncleanness, neither was there any that resisted him.

14:8 Then did they till their ground in peace, and the earth gave her increase, and the trees of the field their fruit.

14:9 The ancient men sat all in the streets, communing together of good things, and the young men put on glorious and warlike apparel.

1 MACCABEES

14: 10 He provided victuals for the cities, and set in them all manner of munition, so that his honourable name was renowned unto the end of the world.

14: 11 He made peace in the land, and Israel rejoiced with great joy:

14: 12 For every man sat under his vine and his fig tree, and there was none to fray them:

14: 13 Neither was there any left in the land to fight against them: yea, the kings themselves were overthrown in those days.

14: 14 Moreover he strengthened all those of his

**people that were brought low:
the law he searched out; and
every contemner of the law
and wicked person he took
away.**

**14:15 He beautified the
sanctuary, and multiplied
vessels of the temple.**

**14:16 Now when it was heard
at Rome, and as far as Sparta,
that Jonathan was dead, they
were very sorry.**

**14:17 But as soon as they
heard that his brother Simon
was made high priest in his
stead, and ruled the country,
and the cities therein:**

**14:18 They wrote unto him in
tables of brass, to renew the
friendship and league which**

**they had made with Judas
and Jonathan his brethren:**

**14:19 Which writings were
read before the congregation
at Jerusalem.**

**14:20 And this is the copy of
the letters that the
Lacedemonians sent; The
rulers of the Lacedemonians,
with the city, unto Simon the
high priest, and the elders,
and priests, and residue of
the people of the Jews, our
brethren, send greeting:**

**14:21 The ambassadors that
were sent unto our people
certified us of your glory and
honour: wherefore we were
glad of their coming,**

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14:22 And did register the things that they spake in the council of the people in this manner; Numenius son of Antiochus, and Antipater son of Jason, the Jews' ambassadors, came unto us to renew the friendship they had with us.

14:23 And it pleased the people to entertain the men honourably, and to put the copy of their ambassage in publick records, to the end the people of the Lacedemonians might have a memorial thereof: furthermore we have written a copy thereof unto Simon the high priest.

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14:24 After this Simon sent Numenius to Rome with a great shield of gold of a thousand pound weight to confirm the league with them.

14:25 Whereof when the people heard, they said, What thanks shall we give to Simon and his sons?

14:26 For he and his brethren and the house of his father have established Israel, and chased away in fight their enemies from them, and confirmed their liberty.

14:27 So then they wrote it in tables of brass, which they set upon pillars in mount Sion: and this is the copy of the writing; The eighteenth

day of the month Elul, in the hundred threescore and twelfth year, being the third year of Simon the high priest,

14:28 At Saramel in the great congregation of the priests, and people, and rulers of the nation, and elders of the country, were these things notified unto us.

14:29 Forasmuch as oftentimes there have been wars in the country, wherein for the maintenance of their sanctuary, and the law, Simon the son of Mattathias, of the posterity of Jarib, together with his brethren, put themselves in jeopardy, and resisting the enemies of their

nation did their nation great honour:

14:30 (For after that Jonathan, having gathered his nation together, and been their high priest, was added to his people,

14:31 Their enemies prepared to invade their country, that they might destroy it, and lay hands on the sanctuary:

14:32 At which time Simon rose up, and fought for his nation, and spent much of his own substance, and armed the valiant men of his nation and gave them wages,

14:33 And fortified the cities of Judea, together with

Bethsura, that lieth upon the borders of Judea, where the armour of the enemies had been before; but he set a garrison of Jews there:

14:34 Moreover he fortified Joppa, which lieth upon the sea, and Gazera, that bordereth upon Azotus, where the enemies had dwelt before: but he placed Jews there, and furnished them with all things convenient for the reparation thereof.)

14:35 The people therefore sang the acts of Simon, and unto what glory he thought to bring his nation, made him their governor and chief priest, because he had done all these things, and for the

justice and faith which he kept to his nation, and for that he sought by all means to exalt his people.

14:36 For in his time things prospered in his hands, so that the heathen were taken out of their country, and they also that were in the city of David in Jerusalem, who had made themselves a tower, out of which they issued, and polluted all about the sanctuary, and did much hurt in the holy place:

14:37 But he placed Jews therein. and fortified it for the safety of the country and the city, and raised up the walls of Jerusalem.

14:38 King Demetrius also confirmed him in the high priesthood according to those things,

14:39 And made him one of his friends, and honoured him with great honour.

14:40 For he had heard say, that the Romans had called the Jews their friends and confederates and brethren; and that they had entertained the ambassadors of Simon honourably;

14:41 Also that the Jews and priests were well pleased that Simon should be their governor and high priest for ever, until there should arise a faithful prophet;

14:42 Moreover that he should be their captain, and should take charge of the sanctuary, to set them over their works, and over the country, and over the armour, and over the fortresses, that, I say, he should take charge of the sanctuary;

14:43 Beside this, that he should be obeyed of every man, and that all the writings in the country should be made in his name, and that he should be clothed in purple, and wear gold:

14:44 Also that it should be lawful for none of the people or priests to break any of these things, or to gainsay his words, or to gather an

assembly in the country without him, or to be clothed in purple, or wear a buckle of gold;

14:45 And whosoever should do otherwise, or break any of these things, he should be punished.

14:46 Thus it liked all the people to deal with Simon, and to do as hath been said.

14:47 Then Simon accepted hereof, and was well pleased to be high priest, and captain and governor of the Jews and priests, and to defend them all.

14:48 So they commanded that this writing should be put in tables of brass, and that

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**they should be set up within
the compass of the sanctuary
in a conspicuous place;**

**14:49 Also that the copies
thereof should be laid up in
the treasury, to the end that
Simon and his sons might
have them.**

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 **15:1 Moreover Antiochus
son of Demetrius the king
sent letters from the isles of
the sea unto Simon the priest
and prince of the Jews, and to
all the people;**

**15:2 The contents whereof
were these: King Antiochus to
Simon the high priest and
prince of his nation, and to**

**the people of the Jews,
greeting:**

**15:3 Forasmuch as certain
pestilent men have usurped
the kingdom of our fathers,
and my purpose is to
challenge it again, that I may
restore it to the old estate,
and to that end have gathered
a multitude of foreign soldiers
together, and prepared ships
of war;**

**15:4 My meaning also being
to go through the country,
that I may be avenged of them
that have destroyed it, and
made many cities in the
kingdom desolate:**

**15:5 Now therefore I confirm
unto thee all the oblations**

which the kings before me granted thee, and whatsoever gifts besides they granted.

15:6 I give thee leave also to coin money for thy country with thine own stamp.

15:7 And as concerning Jerusalem and the sanctuary, let them be free; and all the armour that thou hast made, and fortresses that thou hast built, and keepest in thine hands, let them remain unto thee.

15:8 And if anything be, or shall be, owing to the king, let it be forgiven thee from this time forth for evermore.

15:9 Furthermore, when we have obtained our kingdom,

we will honour thee, and thy nation, and thy temple, with great honour, so that your honour shall be known throughout the world.

15: 10 In the hundred threescore and fourteenth year went Antiochus into the land of his fathers: at which time all the forces came together unto him, so that few were left with Tryphon.

15: 11 Wherefore being pursued by king Antiochus, he fled unto Dora, which lieth by the sea side:

15: 12 For he saw that troubles came upon him all at once, and that his forces had forsaken him.

15: 13 Then camped Antiochus against Dora, having with him an hundred and twenty thousand men of war, and eight thousand horsemen.

15: 14 And when he had compassed the city round about, and joined ships close to the town on the sea side, he vexed the city by land and by sea, neither suffered he any to go out or in.

15: 15 In the mean season came Numenius and his company from Rome, having letters to the kings and countries; wherein were written these things:

15: 16 Lucius, consul of the Romans unto king Ptoleme, greeting:

15: 17 The Jews' ambassadors, our friends and confederates, came unto us to renew the old friendship and league, being sent from Simon the high priest, and from the people of the Jews:

15: 18 And they brought a shield of gold of a thousand pound.

15: 19 We thought it good therefore to write unto the kings and countries, that they should do them no harm, nor fight against them, their cities, or countries, nor yet

aid their enemies against them.

15:20 It seemed also good to us to receive the shield of them.

15:21 If therefore there be any pestilent fellows, that have fled from their country unto you, deliver them unto Simon the high priest, that he may punish them according to their own law.

15:22 The same things wrote he likewise unto Demetrius the king, and Attalus, to Ariarathes, and Arsaces,

15:23 And to all the countries and to Sampsones, and the Lacedemonians, and to Delus, and Myndus, and Sicyon, and

**Caria, and Samos, and
Pamphylia, and Lycia, and
Halicarnassus, and Rhodus,
and Aradus, and Cos, and
Side, and Aradus, and
Gortyna, and Cnidus, and
Cyprus, and Cyrene.**

15:24 And the copy hereof
they wrote to Simon the high
priest.

15:25 So Antiochus the king
camped against Dora the
second day, assaulting it
continually, and making
engines, by which means he
shut up Tryphon, that he
could neither go out nor in.

15:26 At that time Simon sent
him two thousand chosen

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men to aid him; silver also, and gold, and much armour.

15:27 Nevertheless he would not receive them, but brake all the covenants which he had made with him afore, and became strange unto him.

15:28 Furthermore he sent unto him Athenobius, one of his friends, to commune with him, and say, Ye withhold Joppa and Gazera; with the tower that is in Jerusalem, which are cities of my realm.

15:29 The borders thereof ye have wasted, and done great hurt in the land, and got the dominion of many places within my kingdom.

15:30 Now therefore deliver the cities which ye have taken, and the tributes of the places, whereof ye have gotten dominion without the borders of Judea:

15:31 Or else give me for them five hundred talents of silver; and for the harm that ye have done, and the tributes of the cities, other five hundred talents: if not, we will come and fight against you

15:32 So Athenobius the king's friend came to Jerusalem: and when he saw the glory of Simon, and the cupboard of gold and silver plate, and his great attendance, he was

astonished, and told him the king's message.

15:33 Then answered Simon, and said unto him, We have neither taken other men's land, nor holden that which appertaineth to others, but the inheritance of our fathers, which our enemies had wrongfully in possession a certain time.

15:34 Wherefore we, having opportun-ity, hold the inheritance of our fathers.

15:35 And whereas thou demandest Joppa and Gazera, albeit they did great harm unto the people in our country, yet will we give thee an hundred talents for them.

**Hereunto Athenobius
answered him not a word;
15:36 But returned in a rage
to the king, and made report
unto him of these speeches,
and of the glory of Simon, and
of all that he had seen:**

**whereupon the king was
exceeding wroth.**

**15:37 In the mean time fled
Tryphon by ship unto
Orthosias.**

**15:38 Then the king made
Cendebeus captain of the sea
coast, and gave him an host
of footmen and horsemen,**

**15:39 And commanded him
to remove his host toward
Judea; also he commanded
him to build up Cedron, and**

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to fortify the gates, and to war against the people; but as for the king himself, he pursued Tryphon.

15:40 So Cendebeus came to Jamnia and began to provoke the people and to invade Judea, and to take the people prisoners, and slay them.

15:41 And when he had built up Cedrou, he set horsemen there, and an host of footmen, to the end that issuing out they might make outroads upon the ways of Judea, as the king had commanded him.

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16: 1 Then came up John from Gazera, and told Simon his father what Cendebeus

had done.

16:2 Wherefore Simon called his two eldest sons, Judas and John, and said unto them, I, and my brethren, and my father's house, have ever from my youth unto this day fought against the enemies of Israel; and things have prospered so well in our hands, that we have delivered Israel oftentimes.

16:3 But now I am old, and ye, by God's mercy, are of a sufficient age: be ye instead of me and my brother, and go and fight for our nation, and the help from heaven be with you.

16:4 So he chose out of the country twenty thousand men of war with horsemen, who went out against Cendebeus, and rested that night at Modin.

16:5 And when as they rose in the morning, and went into the plain, behold, a mighty great host both of footmen and horsemen came against them: howbeit there was a water brook betwixt them.

16:6 So he and his people pitched over against them: and when he saw that the people were afraid to go over the water brook, he went first over himself, and then the men seeing him passed through after him.

16:7 That done, he divided his men, and set the horsemen in the midst of the footmen: for the enemies' horsemen were very many.

16:8 Then sounded they with the holy trumpets: whereupon Cendebeus and his host were put to flight, so that many of them were slain, and the remnant gat them to the strong hold.

16:9 At that time was Judas John's brother wounded; but John still followed after them, until he came to Cedron, which Cendebeus had built.

16:10 So they fled even unto the towers in the fields

of Azotus; wherefore he burned it with fire: so that there were slain of them about two thousand men.

Afterward he returned into the land of Judea in peace.

16: 11 Moreover in the plain of Jericho was Ptolemeus the son of Abibus made captain, and he had abundance of silver and gold:

16: 12 For he was the high priest's son in law.

16: 13 Wherefore his heart being lifted up, he thought to get the country to himself, and thereupon consulted deceitfully against Simon and his sons to destroy them.

16: 14 Now Simon was visiting the cities that were in the country, and taking care for the good ordering of them; at which time he came down himself to Jericho with his sons, Mattathias and Judas, in the hundred threescore and seventeenth year, in the eleventh month, called Sabat:

16: 15 Where the son of Abubus receiving them deceitfully into a little hold, called Docus, which he had built, made them a great banquet: howbeit he had hid men there.

16: 16 So when Simon and his sons had drunk largely, Ptoleme and his men rose

up, and took their weapons, and came upon Simon into the banqueting place, and slew him, and his two sons, and certain of his servants.

16: 17 In which doing he committed a great treachery, and recompensed evil for good.

16: 18 Then Ptolemy wrote these things, and sent to the king, that he should send him an host to aid him, and he would deliver him the country and cities.

16: 19 He sent others also to Gazera to kill John: and unto the tribunes he sent letters to come unto him,

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that he might give them silver, and gold, and rewards.

16:20 And others he sent to take Jerusalem, and the mountain of the temple.

16:21 Now one had run afore to Gazera and told John that his father and brethren were slain, and, quoth he, Ptoleme hath sent to slay thee also.

16:22 Hereof when he heard, he was sore astonished: so he laid hands on them that were come to destroy him, and slew them, for he knew that they sought to make him away.

16:23 As concerning the rest of the acts of John, and his wars, and worthy deeds

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which he did, and the building of the walls which he made, and his doings,

16:24 Behold, these are written in the chronicles of his priesthood, from the time he was made high priest after his father.